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A Special Report by Star Metro Media



The Bayview Community in Airdrie. NATHAN ELSON

BRINGING AFFORDABILITY BACK TO AIRDRIE

If you're looking to find an affordable new home, consider buying in Airdrie. It's a tight-knit community with incredible prices, says Stephanie Garrett, area sales manager at Bayview 10, a new collection of homes now selling in Airdrie.

"We have affordable homes that are accessible for more people," Garrett says. "Our prices are opening up opportunities for those who may not have been able to buy in other communities."

A new phase of the Bayview community, Bayview 10, just opened and quick possession homes are now available. You can get your home in an incredible 45, 60 or 75 days after you purchase.

Buyers are diverse. Bayview homes have been purchased by families who are looking for more space to expand in and a safe community for their children to grow up in. They're also attracting downsizers who are looking for a great place to settle down and get some peace and quiet. And for those who work in Calgary, Bayview allows country living with easy access to the city.

"Airdrie really offers the best of both worlds," says Garrett. "Residents here get a peaceful, community-oriented neighbourhood



CONTRIBUTED

that's close to nature, all just a short drive from the big-city amenities."

It takes about 25 minutes to drive from Bayview into Calgary's downtown core.

Closer to home, residents have everything they need easily accessible within the community, including CrossIron Mills shopping centre.

"The surrounding neighbourhood of Bayside is about a three-minute walk from Bayview, and

it's got everything — a K-4 public school, lots of parks, canals, gorgeous walking and biking paths," says Garrett. "It's idyllic."

The homes themselves come in prairie, arts and crafts and craftsman-style architecture.

They're high-quality and built to last, with well-appointed features including laminate flooring, stainless steel appliances, tile backslashes and a Nest Learning Thermostat to

help you save money on your electricity bill.

Duplexes start from the \$330,000s, while single-family detached homes with front garages start from the \$390,000s. Both prices include GST.

Interested buyers are invited to visit Bayview in person to experience the community and tour the newly opened show home at Bayview 10.

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Customers choose the top builders

CUSTOMER CHOICE AWARDS

Recognition from buyers means a lot to home builders

Kathy McCormick

Everyone loves to receive an award — and the residential construction industry is no different. When an award is given to a builder that is judged by people from the industry, it's recognition that the work he or she is doing has value to those who know what it takes to be a success. The recent Canadian Home Builders' Association — Alberta Awards of Excellence is a great example.

But when those awards are decided directly from the response of the builders' customers, it means even more. After all, the buyers are the reason the builder is in business.

"Recognition by your peers that you are doing something well truly reinforces for our customers and to our team that we are creating unique and innovative homes for our customers," says Allan Klassen, chairman of Canadian Home Builders' Association/Urban Development Institute Calgary Region.

"Of course, the Customer Choice Awards, acknowledged by our customers, are the most coveted and sought after. It's what we strive for every day."

The industry has several award programs that recognize just that by sending out detailed surveys to each new homeowner to fill out: surveys



Awards based on homeowner satisfaction are the most coveted and sought after, says Allan Klassen, chairman of Canadian Home Builders' Association in Calgary. ISTOCK

that ask about everything from the customers' first contact with the builder when they walk into a show home, to the final service calls at the end of the first year after they've moved in — and everything in between.

"We have two measurements," says Christian Caswell, president of CustomerInsight which was involved with the Customer Choice Awards in

conjunction with the Professional Home Builders Institute (PHBI) for three years before starting the H.O.M.E. Awards (Home Owner Mark of Excellence) through his own company this year. "We want to ensure we see the whole obligation period the builder has to the customer from one month post-possession to 13 months after they've moved in."

The Home Quality Awards are given out by Avid Ratings Canada.

"Detailed customer feedback at a long-term touch point is used to determine the winners," says Tim Bailey, division president. The awards are based on homebuyers' long-term experience with the construction workmanship and building materials used in new homes.

+ HERE ARE THE WINNERS

H.O.M.E. Awards 2016

- Platinum Award winners:
 - Avalon Central Alberta (Central Alberta)
 - Lincolnberg Master Builder (Edmonton)
 - Avalon Master Builder (Calgary)
- Finalists:
 - Broadview Homes
 - Cedarglen Homes
 - Dolce Vita Homes
- Gold Alberta winner:
 - Avalon Central Alberta
- Gold Calgary winner, single-family:
 - Cedarglen Homes

2016 Avid Home Quality Award winners

- Single-family:
 - Albi Homes
 - Platinum Homes and Developments
- Multi-family:
 - Brookfield Residential Calgary

CustomerInsight/PHBI award winners

Meanwhile, the 2015 CustomerInsight/PHBI award winners have been announced, ending the program. The Customer Choice Awards winners across Alberta last year are:

- Single-family:
 - Jacobs Construction (5 – 49 homes)
 - Galko Master Builder (50 – 149 homes)
 - Cedarglen Homes (150+ homes)
- Multi-family:
 - Kingsmith Homes (5 – 49 units)
 - Innovations by Jayman (50 – 149 units)
 - Brookfield Residential (150+ units)

Since 1987, PHBI has provided education for the residential construction industry. In the future, the organization will concentrate on that rather than competing with the other award programs in place, says Joe Connelly, executive director of PHBI.

Duplex offers space and privacy

WESTCREEK

Side-by-side home features large kitchen, open main floor

Kathy McCormick

You enter the Galea show home by Creations by Shane from the sales centre next door, through a bridge to the generous porch and into the home. As I walked through, I had to go back outside and to the street to see if this really was a duplex home or a single-family home ... it was not at all obvious.

The Galea is, indeed, one half of a side-by-side home — and it's spacious and inviting right from the moment you step inside. The foyer looks out to the wide-open main floor, the large living room ahead, the kitchen at the back.

A unique twist is the foyer treatment. Even in a home of just 1,508 square feet, it is a focal point and yet it doesn't take away valued space from the rest of the floorplan. Two separate closets, one on each side, provide ample coat storage — and on the living room side, they include open lighted shelving for displaying treasures. A nice touch.

From the foyer, the stairs to the upper level and basement are to the right, hugging the front and side adjacent to the attached home on the other side. The half bath is tucked in here, too.

The living room has three square windows up high to let in the light yet maintain privacy.

The kitchen is large and impressive with ample storage with cupboards that wrap around in an L-shape and a good-sized rectangular island that multiplies food prep space. The island has a flush eating bar along the outside edge.



The Galea duplex home features a generous porch and room for a double garage. CONTRIBUTED

Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances and a huge window to let in the light make the kitchen a welcome spot to gather. A large walk-in pantry cupboard and the entrance to the back are in this area as well.

Upstairs, a closet at the top holds a stacking washer and dryer. Three bedrooms include the master suite with a walk-in closet and full ensuite with tub/shower combination.

The floorplan is matched next door, so the master en-

suite and walk-in closet are at the adjoining wall, separating the two bedroom areas in each home to minimize noise and afford more privacy. With the staircases hugging the walls, too, that separation is even better.

Outside, a built-in separation between the two porches gives each homeowner private outdoor space for the generous veranda. With the wide front porches, the trim detail on rooflines and the brick-like finishing on the lower exterior, the homes have a

pleasing curb appeal. In the back, there's room for a detached, double garage — and still ample space to enjoy the outdoors.

Legacy is in the deep south-east quadrant, a master-planned community by WestCreek Developments. The abundant open space includes water features, 15 kilometres of walking paths, 300 acres of pristine, protected green space, and off-leash dog parks.

It is close to the new south Calgary hospital, shopping and services.

+ IN SHORT

Builder: Creations by Shane

Model: The Galea, 1,508-square-foot duplex

Price: \$375,000 with lot and GST. (The show home has minimal upgrades).

Area: Legacy in south Calgary, a WestCreek Developments community.

Directions: Take Macleod Tr. south to 210 Ave. SE, turn east, then right at Legacy View and right again at Legacy Circle.

Hours: Open from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday to Thursday and noon to 5 p.m. weekends and holidays. Closed Fridays.



The foyer includes open lighted display shelving. CONTRIBUTED



The Galea show home living room. CONTRIBUTED

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NARROW YOUR CHOICES

Use this handy checklist to help establish your priorities

Karen Durrie

Hunting for a new house can be both exciting and exhausting.

In Calgary, where new communities sprout up seemingly overnight and the array of homebuilders are legion, it can be tough to nail down the right balance to fit your wants, needs, means and dreams.

"Before I even take clients out, I get a list of criteria," says Kathy Kloepper, a realtor with The Real Estate Professionals.

"We talk about square footage, how many bedrooms, what they need for their families, whether they want a developed basement, a nice big yard, south or north-facing," she says.

Sorting your priorities under several important categories can help you narrow your choices so that your own winning "best in show homes" rise to the top.

Here are some important things to think about:

Location

- What will your commute time be? How long are you willing to spend in traffic daily?
- Is it walkable, or do amen-



Families should consider how many bedrooms and bathrooms they need, neighbourhood schools and outdoor space. ISTOCK

ities require car trips?

- Are there neighbourhood schools?
- Do you want outdoor recreation and natural spaces nearby?

- Are family and friends close by?
- Is transit access a priority?
- Is it zoned for residential suites, if you hope to offset

your costs with revenue?

Affordability

- Housing costs including mortgage, taxes, heating and condo fees should not

exceed 32 per cent of your gross monthly household income. (Source: CHMC)

- Five per cent of the total price is your minimum down-payment.

- Are there costs such as condo maintenance or lake fees?

• How long will you stay? If it's your permanent home, explore longer-term mortgages at a fixed rate. If it's a starter, consider an adjustable-rate mortgage.

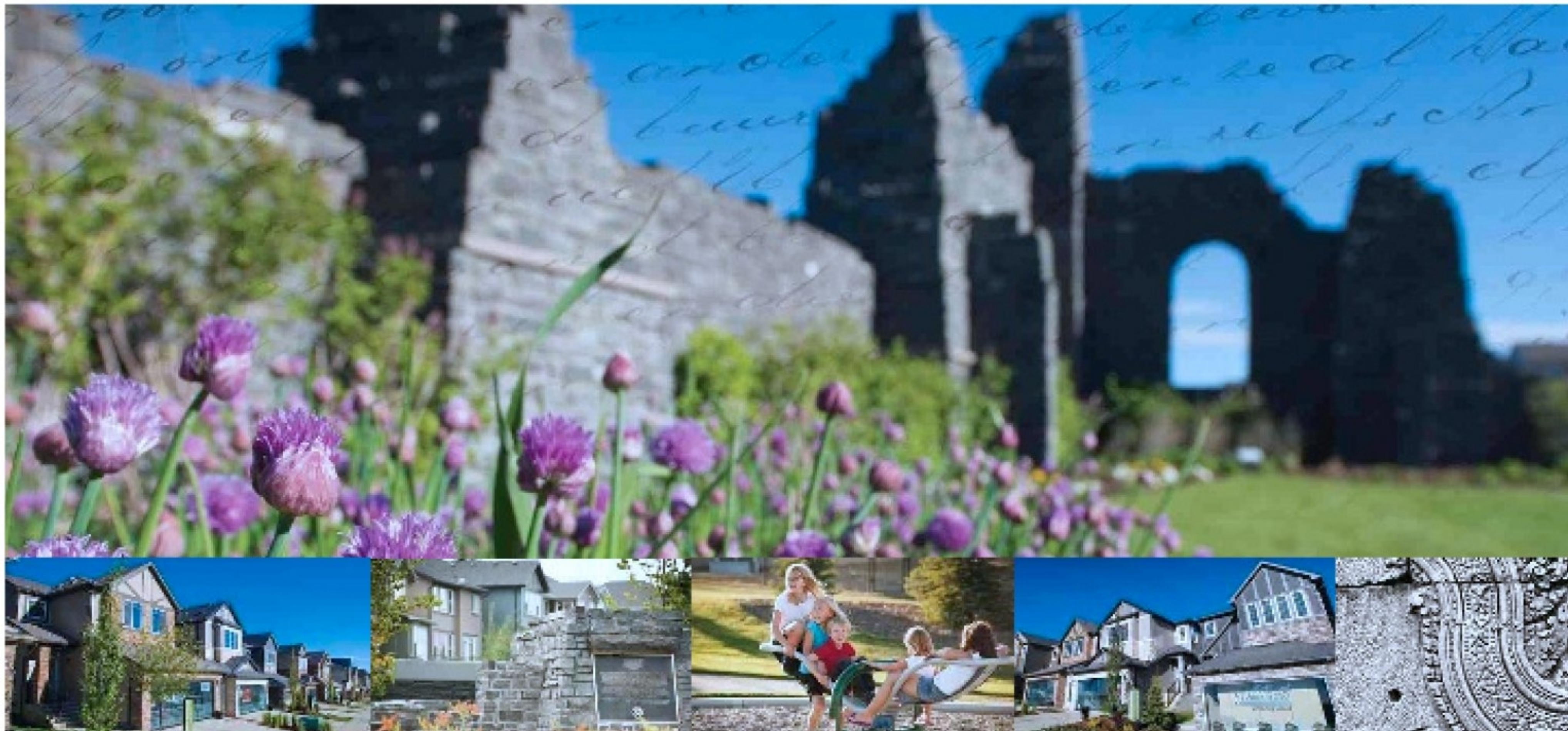
- Look at the same model in different communities. Prices vary depending on location.

Floor plan

- How many bedrooms and bathrooms do you need?
- Where do you spend most of your time in your current residence? Those spaces should be the right size and feel.
- Does the entry make sense? Does it have a closet?
- Is a garage a priority? Attached or detached?
- Storage space. Is there enough?
- Where is the laundry room and linen closet?
- If you spend time outdoors, is a deck, patio or porch a priority?

Quality

- Are the finishings — countertops, flooring and moulding — appealing and durable?
- Will your belongings fit in the home both physically and aesthetically?
- What kind of warranty does the builder offer?
- How close are the neighbouring houses beside and behind you?
- Are there well-rated energy-efficient features and appliances? These can cut utility costs.



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New mortgage rules an industry concern

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

CHBA worries about impact, especially on first-time homebuyers

By Kathy McCormick

A recent federal measure to tighten mortgage lending and cool the red-hot Vancouver and Toronto housing markets could hurt potential new homebuyers, say builders.

"The new rules are very concerning, not only to the building industry, but to everyone who is involved in getting Albertans into new homes," says Guy Huntingford, Canadian Home Builders/Urban Development Institute Calgary Region CEO.

The changes include revamped "stress test" criteria to waive off potential risk of defaults if interest rates were to rise. The new rules, effective as of Oct. 17, apply to all new insured mortgages.

"The impact these rules will have on potential homebuyers, particularly first-time buyers, will dramatically reduce mortgage amounts available to them," says Huntingford.

And that, in turn, affects affordability of housing — a prime concern for homebuilders across the nation.

Canadian Home Builders' Association nationally echoes the worry. "CHBA is very concerned about the impacts resultant reduced access to mortgages will have on potential



Home builders worry not only about the impact of mortgage rule changes on their customers but also on the type of product the industry is producing. ISTOCK



The changes could impede people's choices to get into the market

Dan Hippe, Calbridge Homes

first-time buyers," the group says on its website. "CHBA is also concerned about the impacts these rules will have on slower markets."

And there are still many questions, says Dan Hippe, sales manager of Calbridge Homes.

"The changes came fast and furious and everyone is still trying to figure things out, but the changes could impede people's choices to get into the market," Hippe says.

And for builders, it's another big change in a time of uncertainty and slower sales, says Huntingford.

"It is going to affect the type of product builders are pro-

ducing, which is going to be another big adjustment for the industry that is already dealing with new building codes on the horizon, changes to the Municipal Government Act, City Charters and Regional growth management frameworks.

"The cumulative effect of these changes is huge pressure on affordability."

The national CHBA is assessing the full impacts of the announced measures and meeting with federal govern-

ment sources to get clarification and additional details of the changes. It is also collaborating with like-minded organizations (such as the Canadian Real Estate Association and Mortgage Professionals Canada) to address the issue and to preserve the dream of homeownership and affordability of housing.

Other measures introduced by the government included steps to address concerns related to foreign buyers who buy and flip Canadian homes.



The cumulative effect of these changes is huge pressure on affordability

Guy Huntingford, Canadian Home Builders/Urban Development Institute Calgary Region CEO

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Compact design an inviting space

ESTATE HOME

Efficient layout creates a bright and functional gem of a home

Kathy McCormick

It's pretty much an estate home that has it all — but in a smaller square footage so there isn't one inch of wasted space. Jayman BUILT's Emerge-26 show home

in Mahogany has it all in just 2,254 square feet.

From the foyer

Right from the foyer you'll notice the efficient use of space. The ceilings are high throughout the main floor, so the foyer isn't two storeys high, often seen in estate home. That wasted space upstairs has been used in the secondary bedrooms instead.

From the foyer, the home opens up so the full main floor is open and inviting. The stairs both up and down are to the left with grey banisters topping

decorative charcoal iron railings. A hall leads to the entrance to the front-attached, double garage and a half bath — convenient but tucked away.

Generous kitchen

The ample kitchen is on the right — bright, beautiful and functional all at once. In an extended U-shape, the ample cupboards are flat and grey — the perfect backdrop to the off-white flecked quartz countertops around the kitchen and distinctive grey and white pattern on the island. The island isn't huge,



Jayman BUILT's Emerge-26 show home in Mahogany. CONTRIBUTED



The kitchen features plenty of cupboards and lots of extra counter space. CONTRIBUTED



The open main floor includes a living room and a tucked away half bathroom. CONTRIBUTED.

but again, the compact design has cupboards underneath, a bookshelf at one end and lots of extra counter space for cooking those gourmet meals.

A corner pantry closet and built-in stainless steel appliances, including a five-burner gas cooktop with a modern fan above it, add to the functionality.

A flat eating bar along the outer edge opens to the dining area. The great room adjacent to it has a fireplace centred on one wall and surrounded by the same rectangular grey tiles that are under the hood fan and the backsplash in the kitchen.

The deck is accessed from this area, a generous 10 feet by 12 feet.

Bonus room

Upstairs, the bonus room is at the top, open to the hall, almost

14 feet long and 11 feet, eight inches wide — plenty of room for the big screen TV and a generous sectional for the family to cosy up to watch their favourite shows.

An upstairs laundry room and the two extra bedrooms are on the right, again a generous size.

Unique master suite

The master is at the back of the home to give the area extra privacy. The bedroom is large enough for a king-size bed and oversized furniture, but it's the unique master ensuite that's at once appealing and unique. Back-to-back twin vanities are separated by mirrors and each has access to a walk-in his and hers closet. The stand-alone tub and separate shower with two sides of glass and the private toilet area are on the other side.

Extra living space

The walk-out lower level has been developed to show the potential for expanded living space. It has a large, open family room, an extra bedroom and full bath. There are many different opportunities to get extra living space in the basement should you decide to do it now or later.

And more

The home has core performance features that include a tankless hot water tank, triple-pane windows and more.

Four different specification packages are available to customize the home to fit needs and budget.

Outside, the Hardie Board siding shows the home to best advantage, giving it an estate look from the street.

+ IN SHORT

Builder: Jayman BUILT

Home model: Emerge - 26, a 2,254-sq.-ft. two-storey

Area: Mahogany in the south-east

Price: Base price of the home with standard specifications, lot and GST is \$508,000; this home has the 'ultra' spec package with walk-out lot and is priced from \$564,000.

Hours: Show home is open from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday to Thursday and noon to 5 p.m. weekends and holidays. Closed Fridays.

Directions: Take Deerfoot Trail to Stoney Trail east, turn right at 52 St. SE and follow show home signs to 38 Masters Avenue.



The master ensuite has a standalone tub. CONTRIBUTED



The master bedroom is roomy enough to accommodate a king-size bed. CONTRIBUTED

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LIVE ANOTHER DAY

Jays steal one back
metroSPORTS

Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher Aaron Sanchez reacts as he walks back to the dugout during Game 4 of ALCS action against Cleveland in Toronto on Tuesday.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Equipment needs upgrade

HEALTH

Agency worried for safety of patients without \$93M for sterile tools



Jeremy
Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Alberta Health Services requires more than \$93 million to upgrade the province's sterile medical equipment and, if funds aren't approved, the health agency worries for patient and staff safety.

On Tuesday, the Wildrose released a document through freedom of information that found some of the province's medical reprocessing sites are in dire need of care.

For example, the Foothills Medical Centre in Calgary and the Red Deer Regional Hospital require \$27.5 million and \$26.3 million in funds to upgrade medical devices that reprocess equipment.

"MDR is an essential service, supporting patient safety, and directly im-

pacts the prevention of transmission of infections from reusable medical devices used in the delivery of health care," AHS said in the document.

If funds aren't approved, the document warned services are at risk if the equipment becomes obsolete.

"The most critical risks of non-approval are patient and staff safety, with the threat of infection transmissions being increasingly more likely," the document read.

Accreditation Canada, which reviews medical device reprocessing services every four years, found some areas of "non-compliance" with the sterilization equipment.

In an email, an AHS spokesman said Albertans can be confident in the measures the health agency has in place to protect them from the infections acquired while in hospital.

"There are certainly always areas where improvement is possible or required and we use the valuable information from internal and external reviews of MDR services to inform, prioritize and address issues," the spokesman said.

AHS has identified medical device reprocessing and provincial sterile instrument as one of 21 high priority projects in AHS's 2016 Capital Submission.

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Uber-friendly fee system condemned by industry

TRANSPORTATION

But economist says rules will ease burden on casual drivers



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

To some, Calgary's rideshare legalization was far from perfect, to others it wasn't broke — but the city's attempts to fix its fee structure for transportation-network companies (TNCs) breaks the balance for some.

According to Trevor Tombe, economist at the University of Calgary, the new licensing fees make becoming a driver accessible for part-time and full-time drivers — the workers Uber attracts.

In the past iteration of the bylaw, fees fell on drivers' shoulders, at \$220 annually for a license. It penalized people only looking to casually pick up rides.

"Unless you drive a lot, that really does add up to the equivalent of a very high per hour cost for a part-time driver, and that will limit the willingness of those casual drivers to become Uber drivers," said Tombe. "A small fee per trip doesn't overly burden part-

time versus full-time drivers."

Tombe said other bylaws across the country go by the fee trip and per driver charge. When looking at Uber drivers in the States, the city's old bylaw and new bylaw are comparable in terms of average earnings if drivers are working more than 100 hours per year.

The proposed changes mean transportation network companies would bear the cost of licensing. So, depending on the number of drivers, there's a range of annual fees, a \$15 per driver fee and a \$0.20 per

trip fee to round out administrative costs.

But what makes sense for Uber may not be the perfect fit for other operators. TappCar, which operates under a similar model in Edmonton, told Metro they aren't keen on the new approach.

"If you reduce the per-driver cost, it benefits the larger companies that perhaps have a business model that tends to have more turnover," said TappCar spokesman Pascal Ryffel. "As an industry, if we're looking for more professional

drivers, the proper skills and training, we should keep with the system we currently have."

Ryffel said the change is significant, and they're concerned about the lack of consultation.

"There should be no rush to get this right," said Ryffel.

Roger Richard, Associated Cab owner, said the new provisions were "totally written by Uber."

"We've had no consultation, we were not made aware of it, and now it's affecting the TNCs, it's affecting taxi and

limousines," said Richard. "It's a deal between city hall and one operator; is that fair for the rest of them? I'm looking at complaining to the ethics commissioner. This city should not be allowed to do backroom deals on these issues."

The city will be holding a special meeting, open to the public, on Thursday to discuss the changes with the Livery Transport Advisory Committee. If accepted, the recommendations will go to council for November.

CRASH INVESTIGATION

Challenge ahead for Prentice airplane

Federal investigators have an especially challenging mystery on their hands piecing together what caused a small jet to crash last Thursday shortly after taking off from a British Columbia airport, sending out no distress call.

The Cessna Citation carrying former premier Jim Prentice crashed outside Kelowna, killing all four people on board. The aircraft wasn't carrying an in-flight data or cockpit voice recorder, which are commonly referred to collectively as a black box.

The absence of recording devices has put analysts at a disadvantage when it comes to explaining what was behind the incident, said Bill Yearwood, a spokesman for the Transportation Safety Board (TSB).

"It's going to be very difficult," Yearwood said.

There is no legislation requiring smaller planes to carry black boxes, despite recommendations dating back to 1991 that the devices be made mandatory.

"It's more difficult (without the black boxes) but certainly it's been done many, many, many times," said retired aviation analyst Larry Vance, who spent 25 years with the TSB.

Standard policies include analysing the wreckage, studying pilots' logs and flight records, listening to tapes of radio communication and taking the weather into account.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

“
This city should not be allowed to do backroom deals on these issues.

Roger Richard

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MACEWAN HALL

University takes over student centre



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

The University of Calgary and its Students' Union are working in unison as the school's student centre changes hands, and the school takes over operations. But concerns are still bubbling despite the school's "collaborative" takeover.

The University of Calgary took ownership of MacEwan Hall on Oct. 17 after the Students' Union failed to win a court injunction while an unprecedented lawsuit over the student centre gets under way.

This effectively puts MacEwan Hall's cash flow, previously handled by the Students' Union, back into administration coffers, to later be doled back to the union so that they can continue to run their pro-

grams. The school will also be in charge of managing the building.

"We want to minimize the impact to students through being collaborative with the university, but I still feel students will feel an impact," said SU president Stephen Guscott.

In a release issued by the University of Calgary, the school is clear that "students and the entire campus community" will see no change in services or programs.

"The university is only assuming management of the building and will collect rent and occupancy costs from third party commercial tenants only," read the U of C statement.

According to Guscott, the revenues collected by the U of C will amount to \$1.9 million. That money was part of the SU's operational budget.

CRIME

Two violent home invasions probed



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Disguised attackers busted into two homes on opposite ends of the city Tuesday and Calgary police are investigating their possible connection.

Det. Travis Ibach said the first home invasion happened around 12:30 a.m. Tuesday in the 0-100 block of Springborough Point SW when three individuals forced their way into the home.

According to police the suspects demanded money from the victim before striking him with an object and fleeing with money and personal property.

One person was injured.

The first suspect was described as black, in his mid-20s, approximately 5'9" tall, with a slim build, a goatee and a moustache. He was wearing a grey hoodie and blue jeans.

A second suspect is described as a man, approximately 6' tall, wearing a red and black hoodie.

The detective said the second home invasion took place around 2:40 a.m. in the 600 block of 19 Street NE when two people forced their way into the home. Two people who were home at the time of the robbery both suffered injuries.

The descriptions of suspects in this incident are believed to match the first two of the home invasions.



The construction project aims to make the area safer for pedestrians, but has local businesses suffering when people can't access their stores. AARON CHATHA/METRO

Construction cutting business sales by half

ROADWORK

Shop owners worry about layoffs and closures



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Despite being located on one of the busiest pedestrian corridors in Calgary, grinding construction is costing businesses along 61 Ave SW more than half their sales.

Just across from Chinook

Mall, along the Chinook train station exit, construction on the sidewalk and road began at the end of May. Since then, shop owners said it's becoming increasingly difficult to pedestrians – and vehicles – to reach them, with access points being closed off.

Businesses are reporting a 40 to 60 per cent drop in sales, and the outlook is grim as the construction project, originally slated to be finished in September, could continue into December.

As Metro reported, Chuckles costume shop has suffered a 50 per cent loss in sales, threatening the closure of their store.

Nearby Keith's Deli estimates they're losing 50 to 60 per cent of their customers every day, because it's become so difficult to reach the store. Employees are losing hours because there are not enough customers.

"It's food, you can get food a lot of places. My customers tell me they had to drive around so far just to get here," said owner Jim Hannan. "It's frustrating."

John Munro, president of Artopia Studios, asked the city for signage to let people know businesses are still open despite the construction, but said nothing has been put up.

Bo Jiang, manager of special

+ EFFECT

- 40 to 60 per cent drop in sales.
- Construction completion delayed to Dec. 2016.

projects for transportation, said the construction is to make the area safer for the large influx of pedestrians moving through, and to improve the lighting.

The delays have been a result of the larger than usual amount of rain over the summer months. Jiang said the city is committed to opening access for all businesses by December.

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6

Calgary **metro** NEWS



Rescued kittens are lifted from a pet carrier by Debbie Pedersen at the Room to Run Boarding Kennels south of High River, Alberta. The southern Alberta animal shelter which provided a safe haven for four-legged refugees during the 2013 floods has been saved. THE CANADIAN PRESS/JORDAN VERLAGE

Online campaign saves animal shelter

CROWDSOURCING

Donations for pets restores owner's faith in humanity

A southern Alberta animal shelter that provided a safe haven for four-legged refugees during the 2013 floods has been rescued itself.

The Heaven Can Wait Animal Rescue Foundation near High River was close to shutting its doors due to a lack of money. "I did end up having to cash in the last of my investments that I'd made when I sold my house a number of years ago and I knew that we had about \$5,000 left in the bank. We owed money everywhere," said owner Kim Hessel. "I honestly anticipated we would have to shut down by December and probably sooner, honestly, because there wouldn't have been enough to keep going." But a crowdsourcing campaign created by one of the shelter's volunteers has brought in \$102,000.

Hessel said people have also

been making cash donations in person, dropping off food supplies and sending money through e-transfers. She said donations came in from Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Montana, California, Florida and even the United Kingdom.

"It somehow touched people, and I'm going to remember that when I deal with the people I struggle with," Hessel said.

“

**I honestly
anticipated we
would have to
shut down by
December and
probably sooner.**

Kim Hessel

"It's restored a big chunk of my faith in humanity. You see a lot of ugliness in animal welfare and those are things I don't normally talk about. What I'm going to remember is those cases are isolated incidents. There's truly a lot of good in this community

and this world."

Hessel's shelter provided a temporary refuge for up to 2,000 dogs, cats, birds and lizards that were left behind when a mandatory evacuation prompted by flooding forced people from their homes in High River in June 2013.

She said the shelter is now safe for at least a year, which will give it time to get charity status to make fundraising easier. Heaven Can Wait has been open since 1999 and operates along with the Room to Run Boarding Kennel, which has helped to finance it for years.

Hessel said there are 172 cats and 32 dogs at the shelter right now. The same sort of financial stress that nearly forced the shelter to close down has also led to an increase in people surrendering their animals, she said.

"We used to get, on average, 20 calls a week from people saying, 'Can you help me?' That's jumped up consistently to 75 or 100 calls a week. I think people are legitimately worried about the future and waiting for economies to change and their fortunes to increase."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALCOHOL

Brewer launches legal challenge against Alberta beer mark-up

A Saskatchewan beer producer is taking Alberta to court over its new beer mark-up policy.

Saskatoon-based Great Western Brewing Company has filed a court challenge, arguing Alberta's new rules violate constitutional protections on trade freedoms between provinces.

Great Western President Michael Micovcin says there has

been a noticeable impact on sales of his product in Alberta since the new mark-up was introduced in the summer.

Alberta has raised the mark-up from a sliding scale that favoured Alberta and other prairie producers to a flat rate across the board.

But small-sized Alberta brewers are eligible for re-

bates to offset the hike in a bid to boost the home-grown industry.

A spokesperson for Alberta Finance Minister Joe Ceci declined to comment on the lawsuit, but says Alberta has the most open liquor market in Canada, with more than 7,000 beer products on the shelves.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Curriculum survey 'a start': Parents

EDUCATION

Minister seeks public input in comprehensive review of K-12



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Alberta Education's curriculum

survey is "a start," says a city parent group.

On Tuesday, education minister David Eggen announced his Future Ready initiative, which includes an online survey "to ensure that parents and other concerned Albertans have their say during a comprehensive review of the province's K-12 curriculum."

"It's a pretty big deal, it's an unprecedented reach into the public in terms of input into

education or curriculum," said Eggen. "It's live now, so people can go and fill it out."

Lisa Davis, spokeswoman for the Calgary Association of Parents and School Councils (CAPSC) said the survey is "certainly a start," but added that the rubber really hits the road with the subject expert working groups.

"I think we certainly have a concern that independent voices are not sitting at the decision table," she said.

Davis said until the list of people who make up the expert groups is released it's difficult for CAPSC to endorse the initiatives one way or another.

"We hope the next engagement would have more details about the direction that this current survey doesn't, otherwise it's very difficult to provide any meaningful feedback," she said.

The minister said there will also be meetings across the province, hosted by the curriculum

consortia.

Eggen said once the survey closes Nov. 18, all the information collected will be evaluated and analyzed, before its brought back to the public.

"Of course this is not just the beginning of the end, this is the beginning," he said. "It's a combination of vigour, careful research and the employment of best practice that will ensure we get our fingers on the pulse of where Albertans want to go

with curriculum."

President of the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA), Helen Cleese, said they support the ministry's mission to improve education and skills training for Alberta learners.

"We want to ensure an education in Alberta meets the needs of learners today, and well into the future," she said.

To fill out the survey visit: www.fluidsurveys.com/s/curriculumsurvey/



Webber Academy in Calgary will appeal a decision that said it discriminated against Muslim students. METRO FILE

HUMAN RIGHTS

School challenges ruling over praying

A private school found to have discriminated against two Muslim students by not allowing them to pray is challenging the ruling in the Alberta Court of Appeal.

Webber Academy in Calgary is arguing in its appeal filed in mid-September that it has a right to remain secular.

Last summer, a lower-court judge upheld a decision by the Alberta Human Rights Commission that found Webber Academy unlawfully discriminated against the students. The judge also upheld a \$26,000 fine.

The boys, who were in Grades 9 and 10, testified that praying is mandatory in their Sunni religion. Sarhad Amir and Naman Siddiqui, were told in 2011 that their praying — which requires bowing and kneeling — was "too obvious" in a non-denominational school.

They continued to hold their prayers in secret in the school or outside in the snow.

"There's been no change here whatsoever," said school founder Neil Webber.

"We continue to operate on the basis that we are a secular school and there's no prayer space for anybody that would ask for it and nobody's asking for it other than the families who took us to the human rights commission."

The school argued in its original appeal in Court of Queen's Bench that the boys' parents were told Webber Academy was non-denominational and there was no space in the school for praying.

"We just have a separation of the practice of prayer from the education here," Webber said.

"We think that we should be able to operate in that kind of environment in the same way the Calgary Jewish Academy can operate ... and likewise with the Calgary Clearwater Academy with respect to the teaching of Catholic education. Likewise with the Calgary Islamic Schools — there's a couple of them," he added.

There are about 1,000 students attending Webber Academy.

In its 19 years of operation, there has only been the single complaint, Webber explained.

"We have numerous Muslim families here. We have youngsters here from almost any religion, as well as youngsters here who are children of atheists."

"We welcome youngsters from all these backgrounds and things are working well."

There's no word on when the appeal will be heard.

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Optometrist helps struggling children

HEALTH

Parents urged to make sure kids get annual vision tests



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Dawn Lowthry has seen a complete change in her son Kai over the last year—something she's attributing to vision therapy.

October is Children's Vision Month, and has a Calgary optometrists calling for parents to make sure their children get their annual eye-test, but also reminding them that sometimes more vision related work is required to help a struggling child.

Lowthry said Kai, who was 11 at the time, was struggling at school, so they went for psy-



Dr. Brent Neufeld has helped **Kai Lowthry** to connect his eyes and brain – ridding him of headaches and frustration, and opening new educational doors. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

cho-educational assessment and were referred to an optometrist after the assessor saw gaps she thought might be related to visual processing challenges.

Lowthry and Kai had been referred to Calgary Vision Therapy's Dr. Brent Neufeld, an

optometrist with a special interest in vision training and vision development.

"Sure enough he had quite a few gaps," said Lowthry. "He wasn't reading at his designated grade level, he was having headaches and getting frustrated with reading and

writing—all because his eyes weren't working the way they should be."

Neufeld said kids who are struggling with reading, who have a hard time tracking along lines of text, who experience words that jump and move on the page, who have a hard time focusing from one thing to another (like their desk and the whiteboard), or experience headaches and dizziness are likely experiencing visual processing challenges, too.

"There are individuals during the regular screening who appear to have adequate skills," he said. "But when they have to do a cognitive task or a movement task it shows they have to use so much of their thought pattern to try and control their eye movements."

After a series of weekly therapy, Lowthry saw a big change in Kai. "He's a new little boy," she said. "He doesn't get headaches anymore and actually enjoys reading."

AWARD

Film fest chief sole nominee from city



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The Rozsa Foundation is only giving out one award this year, but boy is it a doozy: the Excellence in Arts Management Award recipient gets \$10,000, an additional \$10,000 for their organization and, to top it all off, about \$70,000 education and consultations.

There's only three nominees shortlisted this year, two from Edmonton and Calgary's Steve Schroeder, executive director of the Calgary International Film Festival.

Schroeder has actually won the award before, in 2005 for his work with One Yellow Rabbit Theatre. Mary Rozsa de Coquet, CEO of the foundation, said it's no surprise to see his name pop up again.

"He has done an amazing



He has done an amazing job.

Mary Rozsa de Coquet

job," she said. "He has really helped build his board, their governance, strategic plan and their brand, that was largely absent before."

Rozsa de Coquet said CIFF was going through a dark period, and since Schroeder came on board four years ago, there has been an 83 per cent increase in audience, a 96 per cent increase in earned revenue, the establishing of a reserve fund and CIFF has become an Oscar qualifier in the short film category.

Although he said it was a honour to be considered for the award, Schroeder sees himself as an architect. He said every year, the festival happens, then he inputs a plan to fix anything that went wrong or needs adjustments. After that, he watches his construction crew – the board, the staff and the volunteers – get to work on making it another success for the next year.

"Any successes we have, the team get the credit for them," he said. "It's really all about the team."

The awards take place on Oct. 26.

DRAGONS' DEN

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Hard to know if oil wins after election

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Front-runners' energy policies carry both pros and cons

Of the two front-running U.S. presidential candidates, which one would best serve the Canadian oil and gas industry?

The answer, according to the experts, depends upon which version of the winning candidate takes over the Oval Office.

Hillary Clinton is the veteran insider who, as Secretary of State, recommended the Keystone XL pipeline, but during the Democratic primaries all but promised to put an end to fracking.

Meanwhile, Donald Trump has promised the world to the fossil fuels sector, but the Republican candidate changes his policy positions — if you can call them policy positions — on a whim. Naturally, among energy watchers, uncertainty abounds.

Let's start with the macro effects of presidential elections. Robert Skinner is an executive fellow with the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary. He sees Clinton as the status quo candidate.

"Clinton is more or less business as usual. There's no real change in the base political approach," he says. "It would be going from a Democratic administration to a Democratic administration."

Trump, however, is another matter altogether; all bluster and unpredictability.

"If the U.S. economy goes into decline because of the acute unpredictability that would come with a Trump presidency, then Canada's economic prospects would be affected because our trade relationship is so pervasive," Skinner says.

During the July Republican



Each of the frontrunners, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, has presented more than one position on energy. That means determining which candidate is better for Alberta's oil and gas interests depends on which position they take as U.S. president. CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTOS

National Convention, billionaire oilman Harold Hamm — tagged as the leading candidate to be Trump's energy secretary — delivered a six-minute speech calling for the exclusion of all foreign oil and the doubling of American production (which reached a peak of 9.5 million b/d in 2015, compared to domestic consumption around 20 million b/d).

"We could double U.S. oil production again and put America in a global league of its own," Hamm told delegates to scattered cheers.

Trade is a sector Trump has famously promised to shake up, repudiating or renegotiating agreements like NAFTA. Mount Royal University political scientist Keith Brownsey thinks Alberta technology firms, service companies, and equipment manufacturers could be deeply affected. "Canadian exports of oil technology and software

ALBERTA OIL

"If the U.S. economy goes into decline because of the acute unpredictability that would come with a Trump presidency, then Canada's economic prospects would be affected. Robert Skinner, University of Calgary School of Public Policy"

sold in the United States could suffer very quickly and without a lot of consequences, either," he said. The Canadian government's only recourse would be to appeal to NAFTA panels. But, as softwood lumber has demonstrated, lawyers for the U.S. government are skilled at dragging out the process and getting their way in the end.

Nowhere is the difference

between Trump and Clinton energy policy more stark than on Washington's regulation of oil and gas production. In the Bismarck speech, the Republican candidate laid out a "100-day action plan" that includes overturning all Obama administration regulations inimical to greater production, revoking "policies that impose unwarranted restrictions on new

drilling technologies" — presumably hydraulic fracturing, but not expressly stated — and lifting prohibitions on energy production on federal lands.

What does that have to do with Canada? Not much under a Trump administration, but a lot under Clinton.

Hamstrung by a Republican Congress in his second term, Obama leaned heavily on federal agencies under executive control, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, which enacted stricter regulations on fugitive methane emissions from oil and gas production by 40 to 45 per cent, restricted Arctic drilling, toughened regulations on offshore activity, beefed up ozone standards and other rules much despised by industry. Under Obama, the Interior Department and the Bureau of Land Management also drew producers' ire by restricting fracking

and raising royalties on public lands. Under Clinton, the message from Washington would be fairly clear: Oil and gas can expect more of the same in years ahead.

Whether Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton becomes the next president, change is probably in the wind for the Canadian energy industry. If it's the Republican candidate, the possibility exists to resurrect Keystone XL and sell more bitumen to the U.S. Gulf Coast. Alternatively, under Trump, Canadian crude could be banned altogether.

If the Democrat carries the November 8 election, then expect more of the Obama climate and energy agenda, which the Trudeau and Notley governments have already adopted.

All in all, Clinton or Trump, there are no clear winners for the Canadian oil and gas industry. ALBERTA OIL MAGAZINE

2017 Economic Outlook

Tuesday, November 8, 2016

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A year after election Liberals still poll strong

POLITICS

Trudeau's personal approval in 60th percentile

It's been a year since Canadian voters took a leap of faith, placing a bet on deficit-financed government ambition after two decades of cuts, caution and small-c conservatism.

"Canadians have spoken," Justin Trudeau said late in the evening last Oct. 19 after a federal election that swept his third-place Liberals to office with a comfortable 15-seat majority.

Twelve months later, the Liberals remain ambitious and hopeful, even if their reach exceeds their grasp.

Whether it be driving middle-class economic growth and alleviating inequality, fixing First Nations' relationships with the Crown, putting the country on a sustainable path to a low-car-



Justin Trudeau's Liberals swept to power last October with a promise of a more open government that better reflects the values and expectations of Canadians. THE CANADIAN PRESS

bon economy, getting natural resources to world markets, or any of another half-dozen complex initiatives, the fairest assessment would be that Trudeau's lofty vision remains a work in progress.

The government's wish list includes leveraging private sector investment in a new infrastructure investment bank,

unleashing the recreational marijuana market, plotting a clear path to Canada's 2030 emissions targets, hashing out home care and pharmacare promises and revamping the electoral system.

Yet multiple public opinion surveys by a cross-section of research companies have Liberal support consistently in the

mid-40s to low 50s — an almost gravity-defying run — with Trudeau's personal approval ratings into the 60th percentile.

However, attributing the government's popularity simply to style is not the whole picture, argued Phillip Resnick, professor emeritus at the University of British Columbia.

Their big-spending first budget, which put the country on a path to a \$30-billion deficit this year by broadly boosting middle-income family benefits, cutting middle-income taxes and committing billions for infrastructure, was a generational shift for non-recessionary times.

It's a massive fiscal policy bet that has yet to show dividends, said Douglas Porter, chief economist at BMO Financial Group.

"Arguably, it's too early," said Porter, pointing to the big Liberal "showpiece" Canada child benefit, which didn't kick in until July while the most recent GDP numbers only include August.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EQUALITY

UN working group studying racism



Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

A special United Nations working group is in Toronto this week to study issues of racism against black people — and plenty of people have plenty to say.

From lack of access to employment, justice and healthcare to the controversial issue of carding and deteriorating relationships with police, members of the city's black community aren't holding back about what needs to be fixed.

"What we have seen is a persistent experience of marginalization and systemic discrimination," said Ndija Anderson, a research lawyer with the African Canadian Legal Clinic.

The firm, which provides legal support and representation to African Canadians in race-based cases, is one of the groups hosting talks with the five-member UN group.

The group will also travel to Ottawa, Halifax, Montreal and other cities, talking with politicians, community organizations and activists. Recommendations



Ndija Anderson of the African Canadian Legal Clinic.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

born from what they hear will be presented to the federal government and the UN.

The mission comes at a time when discussions about discrimination against black people have reached a high in Canada and the United States, with Black Lives Matter movements accusing police of excessive force.

Anderson said the bigger problem lies in "implicit biases."

"There's this pervasive notion of looking at African Canadian people as threatening or being criminals and lazy," she said. "As a society we have to acknowledge that we have a problem of systemic racism, and start working on strategies to undo that kind of thinking."

EDUCATION

Stop the Violence funds scholarship



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

A new Halifax scholarship fund won't be based on grades or age but aims to help anyone reach their "full potential."

Quentrel Provo of Stop the Violence Spread the Love has launched a crowdfunding initiative, with donations going toward anyone.

Provo said after visiting many schools, he always hears students describing plans for after graduation that involve the workforce or jobs like McDonald's, since universities and colleges are out of reach financially.

Provo said he hopes to help young people "go down the right path rather than leaving them in that stuck position where they're either going to go into the workforce or they're going to go into the streets."

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

'Disgraceful' lewd pub crawl cancelled

An event that reportedly saw students at the University of Ottawa encouraged to perform lewd acts in exchange for points has been cancelled indefinitely as organizers apologized to anyone who was "negatively affected" by the experience.

The school's Science Students' Association, which hosted the so-called Vet's Tour earlier this month, called the event "ill-conceived" and "wrong," adding it "unconditionally condemns" any actions, attitudes and discourse

that contribute to, promote or normalize sexual violence and rape culture on campus.

The university itself also denounced the event, in which it said some students were "encouraged to behave disgracefully," and said the incident is a reminder that sexual violence is a societal problem.

The statement from the university came after its French-language student newspaper published a report on a pub crawl where students were allegedly en-

couraged to rack up points by carrying out a list of activities, such as taking off their clothes and having sex with event judges.

The newspaper reported that the event has been a tradition for many years and many participants are involved in student politics.

It also quoted a past participant who said she signed up thinking it was just a regular pub crawl only to find herself pressured to take off her clothes and be groped by a teammate.

A source reportedly told the paper the event's slogan has long been "It's not peer pressure, it's just your turn."

The Science Students' Association apologized to anyone who "felt unsafe or pressured to do anything at any of our events."

The university, meanwhile, called on the campus community to help change what it called "such disgraceful behaviour" and stressed it has policies in place to prevent sexual violence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Chris Hughes said he was detained by Cuban authorities on September 30 for flying a drone in the Plaza de la Revolucion in Havana Cuba. He wasn't released until October 12. CONTRIBUTED

Canadian detained over drone

CUBA
Police thought man was a spy, questioned him for over a week

As Chris Hughes lay in the dark two-by-two-metre cell, with no electricity, a small hole in the wall for a window and just a hole in the ground for a toilet, he wondered if his wife Grace and three young children knew he was still alive.

"Nobody knew I was there," he said. "I had disappeared. I thought, my family must think I'm dead." On Sept. 30, a few days before the Canadian man found himself in a Cuban detention centre, Hughes had flown a drone above the Plaza de la Revolucion in Havana.

A photographer with a media business in Toronto, Hughes said he had been travelling through the Americas. He had brought a drone with him, which he used to shoot photos and videos. He said he had no problems bringing it in through Cuban customs on Sept. 28. But two days later, the drone caused him problems.

Hughes said he and a Cuban friend and tour guide were questioned by police about the drone at the Plaza de la Revolucion, a historic square home to the Cuban administration. The pair was taken to a police station, where

Hughes said they were interrogated for around 12 hours.

He said he was then brought to a detention centre, where he would remain for nearly two weeks. Global Affairs confirmed that consular officials at Canada's embassy in Havana provided services to a detained Canadian citizen. The Toronto Star reached out to the Policia Nacional Revolucionaria office near the plaza, but was referred to a Havana-based immigration office.

Hughes said he was held at an immigration detention centre and was again interviewed by Cuban authorities. Based on the questions, he believes Cuban authorities thought he was a spy. Hughes said that on the fifth



"Nobody knew I was there. I thought, my family must think I'm dead."

Chris Hughes

or sixth day of his detention he was able to meet with a woman from the Canadian embassy.

But it wasn't all good news: he said she told him the government had to let the investigation play out. "The investigator had told me that if they find out I'm working with the American government, that I'll spend the rest of my life in jail," Hughes said.

Then, on Oct. 11, Hughes said he was informed that the following morning he would be taking an 8 a.m. flight back to Toronto. The next day, he was being embraced by two of his children and his wife. Although it was harrowing, Hughes said he understands why he was detained, and doesn't begrudge Cuban authorities.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RAIF BADAWI

Source: Flogging of Saudi blogger to resume

Supporters of jailed Saudi blogger Raif Badawi are sounding the alarm that his flogging could soon resume.

The Montreal-based foundation that bears Badawi's name said this week it has it on good authority his punishment will begin again. The information comes from a "private source" who is the same person who informed Badawi's family in Canada about the first series of lashes in January 2015.

Evelyne Abitbol, the founda-

tion's executive director, conceded Tuesday it isn't known for sure if or when the lashes will resume. Nonetheless, the organization found the information credible enough to make it public.

"We believe this information is right because it came from the same source," Abitbol said. "We thought: If we don't do anything and he is flogged, we would not be happy about not alerting the international community."

The blogger was sentenced



Raif Badawi
GETTY IMAGES

to 10 years in jail, 1,000 lashes and a large fine following a 2014 conviction for his criticism of Saudi clerics.

Badawi, who was arrested in 2012, received the first 50 lashes but is not believed to have had any since for health reasons. Supporters are urging the Saudi government to stop the punishment and

allow him to rejoin his family.

Badawi is not a Canadian citizen but his wife Ensaf Haidar and their three children live in Sherbrooke, Que. Amnesty International's Quebec branch says it is trying to independently verify the information about Badawi.

Earlier this month, Haidar was in Ottawa and implored Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government to help.

In December, Trudeau said he wasn't ready to directly intervene in the case. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ECUADOR

Assange's status shrouded in mystery

Midway through releasing a series of damaging disclosures about U.S. presidential contender Hillary Clinton, WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange says his hosts at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London abruptly cut him off from the internet.

The news adds another layer of intrigue to a campaign that has been roiled by dramatic leaks and allegations of state-sponsored subversion.

"We can confirm Ecuador cut off Assange's internet access Saturday, 5pm GMT, shortly after publication of Clinton's Goldman Sachs (speeches)," the group said in a message posted to Twitter. Tuesday, the group claimed U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry had intervened to ask Ecuador to stop Assange from publishing documents about Clinton. The State Department denied the allegation.

"There just was no meeting," said deputy spokesman Mark Toner. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Iraqi advance on Mosul slows after day of fighting

The pace of operations slowed Tuesday in the fight to retake Mosul from Daesh, as Iraqi forces advancing to the east and south of the city began pushing toward larger villages and encountering civilian populations.

Iraq's Kurdish fighters, also known as the peshmerga, largely paused their advance, according to commanders stationed along the front to Mosul's east, consolidating gains from the previous day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Last rumble before election day

UNITED STATES

Final debate promising to focus on issues

It was barely three weeks ago that Donald Trump opened the first presidential debate by asking, with faux deference, if it was OK to refer to his opponent as "Secretary Clinton."

By Round 2 he was back to calling Hillary Clinton "the devil." Since then, the Republican candidate's scorched-earth campaign tactics have left all sides wondering just how low things will go in the third and final presidential debate, coming up Wednesday night.

For her part, Clinton steps up as a flood of hacked emails provides an unprecedented real-time look into the machinations of a presidential campaign

- hers. In the disclosed material, Clinton is shown taking positions in paid, private speeches at odds with some of her public pronouncements. And she is revealed as resistant to advice by aides to apologize for her email practices and clear the air.

Here are some things to watch for in Wednesday's faceoff at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas:

RIGGED

Trump in recent days has tried to deflect attention from the allegations about his sexual advances by complaining that the election process is rigged against him. Without providing any evidence, he wraps together the potential for voter fraud with assertions that his female accusers are part of a plot to smear him. With millions of viewers tuning in, will Trump dwell on conspiracy theories or give voters a more positive reason to vote for him?

HACKED

Largely overshadowed by the allegations against Trump has been WikiLeaks' day-after-day release of thousands of hacked emails from the Clinton campaign. The emails include excerpts of Clinton's closed-door speeches to Wall Street interests and lots of campaign strategizing over how to contain the political damage related to her handling of classified emails and her use of a private email server. Trump has responded with a scattershot series of criticisms about "Clinton corruption," but he has yet to hone a disciplined line of attack.

BREATHE

The campaign took a dramatic detour last week when a series of women came forward with allegations about Trump's sexual advances. Trump's combative response, calling the women "sick" and "liars" and alleging

that there's a global conspiracy against him, overtook all other aspects of the campaign for a time. How much oxygen will it suck up in the final debate?

CIVIL WAR

With a number of Republican officials in open revolt against Trump and worried that he will be a drag on the rest of the ticket, watch to see whether Trump gins up more discord with his party.

FINGERS CROSSED

Immigration was hardly mentioned in the first two debates. Social Security never came up. The national debt has gotten only passing notice. Policy wonks have their fingers crossed that neglected issues will finally get an airing in the final debate. The list of potential topics includes debt and entitlements, immigration, the economy, the Supreme Court and foreign hot spots.

IT'S BAAACK

A subject that both candidates love to dwell on also is teed up for Round 3: "fitness to be president." Trump and Clinton already have made plain their disdain for each other's qualifications to occupy the Oval Office, but they can be counted on to look for new ways to inveigh against each other's fitness for office.

MIND GAMES

Both candidates have used the debates to try to rattle their opponents: Clinton baited Trump by questioning his wealth and his business acumen. Trump tried to throw off Clinton by seating three women who have accused her husband of sexual impropriety in the front row of the audience at the second debate. Odds are both candidates have saved some fresh theatrics for the final debate.

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A young man plays guitar in a migrant camp in Calais, France. THIBAUT CAMUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Court signals end of migrant camp

FRANCE

'Humanitarian' shelter offered to everyone, says minister

A French court on Tuesday rejected a request by aid groups to delay the closure of the migrant camp in Calais, allowing authorities to clear out its thousands of residents in the coming weeks.

French authorities are gradually relocating or deporting the 6,000 to 10,000 migrants from the camp, also known as "the jungle." No date has been set for a large-scale clear-out operation, but the government has promised to shut it down by the start of winter.

Several aid groups filed an emergency request last

week to postpone the closure, arguing that authorities aren't ready to relocate its residents. A Lille court rejected the request Tuesday, according to Pierre Henry of aid group Terre d'Asile.

Charity groups warn that many of the migrants don't want to stay in France and may set up camp elsewhere to continue trying to cross the English Channel to Britain.

The head of the local administration, prefect Fabienne Buccio, welcomed the court decision. She said the government has secured 4,400 places for Calais' migrants in towns around France so far, and that French and British authorities would speed up efforts to transfer underage migrants to Britain.

Under heavy pressure from France and mounting concern of aid groups, Britain agreed to take in some of

+ STUDENT PLAN

French authorities announced a solution Tuesday for 80 migrants of university age: Head to Lille to study in a public university compound. The students will study French for a year, and then will be able to pursue specialty courses toward a diploma.

the unaccompanied children in Calais who have family in the U.K., but it remains unclear what will happen to the hundreds of others.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve also hailed the decision, and pledged that each person in the camp would be given clear information about their choices and offered "humanitarian" shelter.

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Giving back part of bottom line

ETHICAL COMMERCE

Customers choose firms that share their values

Derek Woodgate didn't know it at the time, but seeing a documentary about childhood malnutrition would change his life.

He watched the film last year and knows it was the catalyst that helped push him and his wife Jen to start Cuddle+Kind, a company that donates 10 meals for every hand-knit doll sold.

Mark Schwartz, an associate professor of business ethics, said it's becoming important for companies to show that they care about more than just the bottom line.

"Over the years, it's become much more mainstream," said Schwartz, who teaches at York University's School of Administrative Studies in Toronto.

"The larger companies in the world, they really have no choice. All the industries realize that they have to be seen as giving back to the society and the community in which



Cuddle+Kind donates 10 meals for every hand-knit doll sold. CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

they operate."

He said customers may be more willing to choose businesses that share their same values or ethics, if all other factors, such as price, quality and services are the same compared to a competitor.

"There's a bigger impact when the contribution is more directly linked to the nature of your product and your service," said Schwartz.



The larger companies, they really have no choice.

Mark Schwartz

"If you buy a pair of shoes, and you know a pair of shoes is going to a child in the de-

veloping world, it would make more of a difference."

Derek Woodgate said customers like knowing that their purchase of a colourful hand knit doll also helps support fair wages for female artisans in Peru and also provide meals to Breakfast Club of Canada, World Food Program USA and Children's Hunger Fund, which feeds children in schools and orphanages around the world.

When brothers Kalen and Derrick Emsley started Ten-tree in 2012, their mission was simple: how could they make money to plant more trees?

They launched a casual clothing line that would plant 10 trees for every item purchased.

Four years and a deal on CBC's Dragon's Den later, Ten-tree now sells clothes in shops across Canada, the U.S. and Australia. In that time, it has planted more than 9.4 million trees, mostly in Madagascar and Ethiopia.

He said customers are willing to pay a few dollars more for their T-shirts, jogging pants and sweaters if they believe in the company's ethos.

Cindy Hardy named her soap business Joa Bath and Body because it loosely translates to "for good" in Korean.

The former legal assistant makes natural soaps from ingredients such as honey, lavender and oatmeal in her Ottawa kitchen and donates a bar of soap for every bar sold to women's shelters.

Since 2008, the company has given away more than 100 bars.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FREE TRADE

Minister's Twitter hacked

The Belgian government says a profane Twitter message featuring a photo of former prime minister Stephen Harper is the work of hackers, not their foreign affairs minister.

Someone accessed the account belonging to Didier Reynders, using it to send a meme of an angry-looking Harper telling off Canadians, complete with the F-word. The subtext of the tweet appears to be the fact that a region of Belgium is standing firm in its opposition to the Canada-EU free trade deal, known as CETA.

A tweet from the department's verified account Tuesday said recent messages published on Reynders's account were not his.

The approval of the deal between Canada and the European Union countries has come under threat this week after the Wallonia region in Belgium rejected the deal amid fears its farmers could face cheap Canadian produce and that many of the labour standards they fought for will be swept away.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Canadians split on carbon tax plan, survey finds

Canadians have mixed feelings about Ottawa's new carbon tax plan, but tilt slightly more in favour — especially young adults and higher earners, says a new Forum Research poll.

Close to one half of those polled, or 45 per cent, gave a thumbs up to the carbon pricing strategy that was announced earlier this month by the federal Liberal government, it says.

However, 41 per cent don't approve, the survey found. It also revealed that 14 per cent of Canadians do not have an

BY THE NUMBERS CARBON TAX PLAN

45%

Gave a thumbs up to the carbon pricing strategy.

41%

Don't approve of the carbon tax plan.

14%

Do not have an opinion one way or the other.

opinion one way or the other on the tax plan.

The majority of approval (at 52 per cent) came from the youngest people surveyed, those aged 18 to 34, while 51 per cent of

the wealthiest surveyed (earning \$100,000 to \$250,000) were in favour, the study found.

Provincially, the strongest support came from Quebec respondents at 58 per cent, while

the lowest support is in Alberta at just 26 per cent, the poll says. A majority of the best-educated (post graduate studies) respondents, at 57 per cent, were also in favour of the plan.

The carbon tax plan had the highest support among Liberal voters at 65 per cent, followed by New Democratic supporters at 55 per cent. Only 11 per cent of Conservative supporters were in favour, the poll found.

"It is quite a victory for the forces of change to see approval for carbon pricing in a plurality position, and in the majority among important core groups like Francophones and youth," said Forum Research president Lorne Bozinoff.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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EMMA TEITEL ON PRESS BIAS

The most popular way to blow off steam among those frustrated with the U.S. election is to excoriate — who else — 'the media.'



It doesn't matter where you live: Donald Trump will find you.

Not literally, of course. (Even if he is elected president of the United States next month, world domination is not likely in the cards for the Donald).

Rather, he will find you virtually, in your newsfeed and anywhere you browse online. The rabid Republican candidate's cyber-presence is so pronounced, in fact, some Trump-wary Internet users have begun downloading special browser extensions that have the power to literally erase all mention of the candidate from their Internet experience.

For those with a scatological bent, there now exists "Firewall Trump," a browser extension that turns all mentions of the candidate's name into smiling poop emojis.

But there appears to exist another more popular way to blow off steam among those frustrated with the U.S. election, a method that doesn't involve the downloading of name-eradicating browsers or the cursing of candidates. I'm talking about the excoriation of — who else — "the media."

Yes, the big, bad mainstream media, argue American conservative commentators like Dinesh D'Souza, is "Hillary's secret weapon."

This is familiar territory; every election cycle, be it

A reminder is in order: when a candidate denies sexually assaulting women, it's in the public interest for media to test that claim

American or Canadian, conservatives cry liberal media bias.

But what's astonishing this time around is how many liberals themselves appear to be convinced that media organizations

ing, people, both left and right, aren't too fond of media: according to a survey by the American Press Institute, 41 per cent of Americans "say they have hardly any confidence" in the press.



CAN YOU BLAME US FOR PUBLISHING THIS? Robert John Burck, a.k.a. the Naked Cowboy, sings a song urging people to vote for Donald Trump, outside Trump Tower in New York on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

are stirring up conspiracy and peddling scandal in the Trump-Clinton campaign when they ought to be focused on "the real issues."

I've lost count of the number of comments and posts I've seen from otherwise progressive friends on Facebook who seriously question the motives behind the media's reportage of Trump's bad behaviour and more recently the motives behind a New York Times article, in which multiple women allege Trump sexually assaulted them.

This mistrust isn't relegated to my own Facebook feed. Statistically speak-

Perhaps then, a reminder is in order that when a candidate denies sexually assaulting women it's in the public interest for media to test that claim. Candidates make statements and media scrutinize and report on those statements; the alleged criminal behaviour of a political candidate is relevant to the democratic process, and it's the media's responsibility to cover it.

And for what it's worth, as David E. McCraw, lawyer for the New York Times, pointed out recently in a letter to Trump's attorneys, media didn't introduce the topic of Trump's alleged

assaults and indiscretions. Trump introduced those things — chose to talk endlessly about them, in fact — on his own.

"Nothing in our article," McCraw writes, "has had the slightest effect on the reputation that Mr. Trump, through his own words and actions, has already created for himself."

I understand that many people are overwhelmed by the volume of Trump-related stories appearing daily across their screens. Trust me, I too am overwhelmed. But volume is not proof of bias. It's often proof that something is seriously wrong in the world.

That said I also understand personal aversion to media. We are, by and large, an insufferable lot of socially anxious know-it-alls; the kind of people who interject at dinner parties to offer kernels of sobering, fact-based wisdom nobody asked for. ("Well actually, I wrote about the housing crisis last month ...")

And yet, like parking enforcement, elementary-school lunch monitors and tax-collection agencies, we are a necessary aggravation, whose absence would be a far worse blight on the earth than our presence.

Without us, dangerous blowhards like Donald Trump would continue to crowd your newsfeeds all the same, only their error-ridden invective would go largely unchecked, and the "scandals" so many of us bemoan having to read about every day would cease to be scandals. They would be something far worse. They'd be secrets.

So despise us all you like, but please, bear with us.

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star.

VICKY MOCHAMA

Inclusivity is every sports fan's responsibility

We all know sports teams have racist names.

Despite being asked repeatedly to drop them, these names abide. But now that jocks are more willing to talk about racism, maybe the time has come for teams and fans to look for more ways to bring everyone into the game.

Recall that before the Toronto Blue Jays' current playoff series, some media, including the Jays' radio broadcaster Jerry Howarth and Huffington Post Canada, said they wouldn't be using the Cleveland team's nickname. Then, on Monday, an Ontario judge declined celebrity architect Douglas Cardinal's request to ban the team's name.

I'd prefer not to use the name in this space, but suffice it to say that the team's mascot, Chief Wahoo, he of toothy minstrel-show grin and a feather in his hair, is pretty much a full-card jackpot in *Is This Racist?* Bingo.

Washington's NFL team, Chicago's hockey team, and Edmonton's CFL team are also being called on to change their racist team names. The pressure to find names that are both socially conscious and emotionally evocative can lead to awkwardness like the Ottawa Redblacks (isn't that just maroon?). That's not to mention all the nicknames that sound as though a committee of really bored and geographically confused people chose them. What is an Orlando Magic? Where exactly in Utah are the Jazz?

The push for dramatic but problem-free names can lead

to names that are offensive to users of proper grammar. I'm looking at you, Montreal Impact. In naming and renaming sports teams, we could try the system used by international soccer teams. Jays fans are, after all, cultivating an English-style hooligan culture. So: What if Edmonton's football team was called, just spit-balling here, the Edmonton Football Team? As a naming convention, it's not exactly inspiring but Liverpool or Chelsea fans don't seem to mind.

Such rebranding exercises would allow teams like Edmonton's and Cleveland's to learn important lessons about their fanbases. Anyone who was into your team precisely because it had a racially flagrant name is maybe not a fan you want.

The rest of the fans will probably stick around through a renaming, and in the process they'll be given an opportunity to ask some overdue questions about what kinds of sports fans they want to be. It's not enough to be upset about a team's racist name, or even to support a change to a new one. Find out what it means to indigenous people who are #NotYourMascot.

Whether it's demanding that your team be more environmentally conscious, that stadiums offer more accessibility, that games be affordable for low-income fans, or that a team doesn't encourage white supremacy, there's a way for every fan to take their seat in the stands knowing that their love of the game does some good in the world.

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A stylized map of the province of Alberta is shown in the background. The map is composed of various shades of purple and blue, with a white outline of the province. A yellow heartbeat line is drawn across the map, starting from the bottom left and moving towards the top right. Several blue dots of varying sizes are scattered across the map, particularly in the southern and central regions.

What's the small idea?

When I listen to Albertans, I sometimes hear comments that we're smaller than other banks.

Well they're right, we are smaller. And while 98% of all Alberta businesses are considered "small" too, they're a big deal to our province. Not only do they employ most of us, they're the principle drivers of our economy.

Being smaller means we're not on hold for Toronto HQ. We're in your communities, coffee shops, co-ops, hockey rinks and businesses, helping Albertan job creators innovate and grow.

Smaller means that we can specialize, focussing on entrepreneurs' business and personal livelihoods—rather than profits for far away stakeholders.

So yes, ATB is smaller. And for Albertans, that's a big advantage.

If you're happy with your bank, you should stay there. If not, ATB listens.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dave".

Dave Mowat
President and CEO

atblistens.com

ATB Financial



What to eat and drink on debate night




Need something to cleanse your political palate as you watch **Hillary Clinton** and **Donald Trump** spar on TV tonight in the third and final U.S. presidential debate? We reached out to Metro readers on social media and an expert, **Toronto Star food critic Amy Pataki**, to ask what food and drink pairings might help the sure-to-be bitter debate go down a little easier.

GENNA BUCK METRO

YOU SUPPORT DONALD TRUMP

FOOD
Pataki suggested Trump supporters nosh on **Cheetos**. "That orange powder stains your skin," she said.

DRINK
Trumpsters should wash down their salty snacks with **milk**, said reader Vidya K. American dairy farmers say all the deportations the Donald wants to do could affect their business, which relies on immigrant workers. And Trump once called a lawyer who had to take a break for breastfeeding "disgusting."




YOU SUPPORT HILLARY CLINTON

FOOD
Ice cream is the perfect Clinton-themed snack, Pataki said, "because she stays cool."


DRINK
If you're with her, you should sip **red wine**, said reader Ruby P. It's "classy and of a certain age. The word that comes to mind is 'mature,'" she said.



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Munchies go high class with pairings

TREND

Pot purveyors insist a good strain is like a fine wine

How to set a tone of woodsy chic at a four-course candlelight dinner served under the stars in the Colorado foothills:

Live musicians and flowers, check.

Award-winning cuisine, check. Beer and wine pairings with each course, check.

Marijuana pairings? Oh, yes.

The 100 diners at this \$200-a-plate dinner smoked a citrus-smelling marijuana strain to go with a fall salad with apples, dates and bacon, followed by a darker, sweeter strain of pot to accompany a main course of slow-roasted pork shoulder in a mole sauce with charred root vegetables and rice.

And with dessert? Marijuana-infused chocolate, of course, grated over salted caramel ice cream and paired with coffee infused with non-intoxicating hemp oil.

The diners received small glass pieces and lighters to smoke the pairings, or they could have their marijuana rolled into joints by professional rollers set up next to a bartender pouring wine.

Welcome to fine dining in Weed Country.

The marijuana industry is trying to move away from its pizza-and-Doritos roots as folks explore how to safely serve marijuana and food. Chefs are working with marijuana growers to chart the still-very-unscientific world of pairing food and weed. And a proliferation of mass-market cheap pot is driving professional growers to develop distinctive flavours and aromas to distinguish themselves in a crowded market.

"We talk with the (marijuana)



Diners smoke marijuana as they eat dishes prepared by chefs during an evening of pairings of fine food and craft marijuana strains at Planet Bluegrass, an outdoor venue in Lyons, Colorado. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

grower to understand what traits they saw in the marijuana ... whether it's earthy notes, citrus notes, herbal notes, things that we could play off," said Corey Buck, head of catering for Blackbelly Restaurant, a top-rated farm-to-table restaurant that provided the meal.

The grower of one of the pot strains served at the dinner, Alex Perry, said it won't be long until marijuana's flavours and effects are parsed as intently as wine profiles. But that's in the future, he conceded.

"It's still looked down upon as

a not-very-sophisticated thing," said Perry, who grew a strain called Black Cherry Soda for his company, Headquarters Cannabis.

Holding his nose to a small jar of marijuana, Perry said, "If I asked my mom or my dad what they smell, they're going to say, 'skunk,' or, 'It smells like marijuana.' But it's like wine or anything else. There's more flavour profile there."

But chefs and pot growers trying to explore fine dining with weed face a legal gauntlet to make pot dinners a reality, even

where the drug is as legal as beer.

Colorado's marijuana retailers can't also sell food, so guests at this dinner had to buy a separate \$25 "goodie bag" from a dispensary for the pot pairings.

The bags came with tiny graters for diners to shave the pot chocolate onto their ice cream themselves; the wait staff could not legally serve a dish containing pot, even though the event was private and limited to people over 21. Diners were shuttled to and from the event by private bus, to avoid potentially stoned drivers leaving the dinner.

Marijuana dining may become more accessible in coming months, though.

Denver voters this fall will consider a proposal to allow marijuana use at some bars and restaurants as long as the drug isn't smoked, with the potential for new outdoor marijuana smoking areas.

And two of the five states considering recreational marijuana in November — California and Maine — would allow some "social use" of the drug, leaving the potential for pot clubs or cafes.

Currently, Alaska is the only

FOOD & WEED

A heady meal

Guests at the Colorado dinner were admittedly experimenting with pairing weed and food, many giggling as they toked between bites. It became apparent late in the evening that a rich meal doesn't counteract marijuana's effects.

"What was I just saying?" one diner wondered aloud before dessert. "Oh, yeah. About my dog. No, your dog. Somebody's dog."

The man trailed off, not finishing his thought. His neighbour patted him on the back and handed him a fresh spoon for the ice cream.

Diners seemed genuinely curious about how to properly pair marijuana and food without getting too intoxicated.

"I am not a savant with this," said Tamara Haddad of Lyons, who was waiting to have one of her pot samples professionally rolled into a joint. "I enjoy (marijuana) occasionally. I enjoy it with friends. I'm learning more about it."

legal weed state that allows on-site marijuana use, with "tasting rooms" possible in commercial dispensaries.

But that state is still working on rules for how those consumption areas would work.

For now, marijuana dining is limited to folks who hire private chefs to craft infused foods for meals served in their homes, or to special events like this one, limited to adults and set outside to avoid violating smoke-free air laws.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

APPLE & CHEDDAR

An easy hors d'oeuvre that guests will think you sweat over

Ricardo Larrivée
Torstar News Service

If you're anything like me, you're drowning in apples this time of year.

That's the trouble with being a dad of three: When family traditions include an annual apple-picking outing, that means three times the apples!

Now, I love apples as much as the next guy, but I'm always on the lookout for interesting ways to prepare them.

That's why I developed this recipe: It's fast, easy and

perfect for your next soirée, whether as a starter for a sit-down get-together or hors d'oeuvre for a cocktail party.

The recipe plays on the classic Canadian combo of apple and cheddar, but here I've reversed the order, making this a savoury, cheesy treat.

Best of all, your guests will never guess it took you less than 15 minutes to prep.

Apple and Cheddar Tart

Prep: 15 minutes
Cooking: 20 minutes
Serves: 6

Ingredients:

- 1/2 lb (225g) store-bought puff pastry, thawed
- 3 tbsp (45 mL) crème fraîche or sour cream
- 1/2 Cortland apple, unpeeled, cored and thinly sliced
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh chives
- 3 1/2 oz (100 g) cheddar cheese, thinly sliced

Directions:

1. With the rack in the lowest position, preheat the oven to 400°F (200 °C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

2. On a lightly floured sur-

face, roll out the puff pastry into a 10-inch (25 cm) square.

With a fork, prick the entire surface of the dough. Place the dough on the baking sheet.

3. Spread the cream on the entire surface of the dough. Cover with the apple slices. Sprinkle with the chives and top with the cheese slices.

4. Bake for about 20 minutes or until the cheese is golden brown. Let cool. Cut and serve as hors-d'oeuvres or an appetizer.



This apple and cheddar tart serves six. CONTRIBUTED



COLD FACTS OF TOMATO STORAGE Any Italian grandmother will warn that putting tomatoes in the fridge will compromise their flavour. Well now, science can back that up. According to a new study, cooling tomatoes below 12 degrees Celsius stops them from making some of the substances that contribute to their taste. With the new detailed knowledge of how that happens, "maybe we can breed tomatoes to change that," said researcher Denise Tieman of the University of Florida in Gainesville. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Sandwiches

Think an occasional indulgence in a stacked sandwich is OK? The colossal amount of calories and fat say otherwise.

PICK THIS

Quarter Chicken Dinner from Swiss Chalet

White meat with skin served with a side garden salad, light Italian dressing, multigrain roll and chalet sauce.

Calories 490
Fat 15.5g



SKIP THIS

The Rotisserie Beef Messy Stacked from Swiss Chalet

Rotisserie beef, grilled baguette, cheddar cheese, tomato, coleslaw, fries and seasoned mayo served with fries, coleslaw, a pickle and chalet sauce.

Calories 1738
Fat 85.5g



HERE'S WHY



Equivalent to 4 servings of Honey Garlic Chicken from Manchu Wok in fat.

The Rotisserie Beef Messy Stacked sandwich tops a beef sandwich with coleslaw, mayo, cheese and fries, while serving it up with an additional large side of fries and creamy coleslaw. The result is a total overdose of calories and fat, about your entire day's worth! In fact, the entire Quarter Chicken Dinner is lighter than the beef sandwich itself, and that's before counting any of the additional sides and condiments! Stick to the Quarter Chicken Dinner to avoid a food hangover — your heart and hips will thank you!

LIQUID ASSETS

California wines want you to know they're old

As it closes in on the 250th anniversary of the opening of its first winery it must irk California to be lumped in with the gaggle of New World countries who wear the lack of consumer awareness regarding their winemaking histories like a badge of cool.

Proving my point is the number of Golden State wineries who have started bragging about their origins. Fetzer Vineyards is a winery that I'm betting was bottling their first vintage in 1968 to the tune of The Beatles White Album, which was released in the fall of the same year. A lot has happened to Fetzer in nearly five decades. Bought by Chile's Concha y Toro in 2011, its wines, while keeping their personalities firmly Californian, have developed a relaxed drinkability thanks to the influence of the Chileans. Fetzer's 2014 Valley Oaks Cabernet Sauvignon (\$11.95-\$15.99) has a mix of black fruit and balanced tannins. PETER ROCKWELL/METRO



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DiCaprio linked to Malaysian fund scandal

LEGAL ISSUES

Star says he's cooperating with authorities in investigation

Leonardo DiCaprio says he's awaiting direction from the U.S. Justice Department regarding any ill-gotten funds that may have supported his environmental foundation or 2013 film *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

The Oscar-winning actor released a statement through his representatives Tuesday saying he will return any gifts or donations connected to a Malaysian wealth fund, pending a fraud investigation of that fund by the U.S. and other countries. Court filings in connection with the investigations allege a complex money laundering scheme intended to enrich top-level officials of the Malaysian government-controlled wealth fund.

"Both Mr. DiCaprio and (the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation) continue to be entirely supportive of all efforts to assure that justice is done in this matter," the statement said. "Mr. DiCaprio is grateful for the lead and instruction of the government on how to accomplish this."

The Justice Department says that at least \$3.5 billion has been

stolen from the wealth fund, known as 1MDB, by people close to Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak. Najib created the fund in 2009 shortly after he took office to promote economic development projects in the Asian nation, but the fund accumulated billions in debts over the years.

The Justice Department has initiated action to seize \$1.3 billion it says was taken from the fund to buy assets in the U.S., including luxury properties in New York and California, a \$35 million jet, art by Vincent Van Gogh and Claude Monet, and financing of *The Wolf of Wall Street*, according to federal government complaints filed in Los Angeles in July.

The government complaints also say that more than \$700 million has landed in the accounts of "Malaysian Official 1." They didn't name the official, but appear to be referring to Najib.

The Justice Department complaints also do not mention DiCaprio by name, but make an oblique reference to "Hollywood Actor 1," who during his Golden Globe acceptance speech thanked "the entire production team" and singled out several people close to Najib implicated in the scandal as "collaborators" on the film. DiCaprio won the Golden Globe for his *Wolf of Wall Street* performance.



Leonardo DiCaprio. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

The Justice Department complaints identify the collaborators by name, including Najib's stepson, Riza Shahriz Abdul Aziz, who co-founded movie production company Red Granite Pic-

tures. Besides *The Wolf of Wall Street*, other films produced by Red Granite include 2015's *Daddy's Home* and 2014's *Dumb and Dumber To*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



JOHANNA SCHNELLER **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

Not every web hit needs a series

THE SHOW: *Haters Back Off*, Season 1, Episode 8 (Netflix)
THE MOMENT: The false poignancy

Miranda Sings (series creator Colleen Ballinger), who believes she's destined to be a star and ignores all evidence to the contrary, is on stage belting out *I Will Always Love You* in her nasal over-tremolo. Owen (Dylan Playfair), the singer she adores, cuts her off.

"That was so funny, that was a little joke I wanted to play on you," he says.

The audience sighs with relief.

Owen asks Miranda for the engagement ring he gave her backstage, to hold until he proposes to April.

Miranda thought the ring was for her; she won't let it go. They tussle.

Owen proposes. April accepts. The crowd claps. "Stop clapping!" Miranda orders.



Miranda Sings (Colleen Ballinger) is insufferable in *Haters Back Off*. CONTRIBUTED

The audience titters. "Why are you laughing?" she screeches.

"Why is it funny that some-

one would love me?"

I'll tell you why: You forgot to give yourself even a single redeeming quality.

Haters Back Off is one of several new shows that began life as a web series.

But unlike HBO's *High Maintenance* and *Insecure*, this idea is way too thin to stretch from two minutes to 30.

Miranda is grating in a webisode; in a full episode, she's obnoxious.

And through an entire season, as she terrorizes her family, remains doggedly ignorant, and simply repeats those notes over and over, she's unbearable.

It's a mistake a lot of TV shows are making: confusing a flawed character with a total jerk.

You can't give us eight episodes of a one-note monster, and then suddenly expect us to care when she cries in the rain.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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WHERE TO KICK BACK AND HAVE FUN IN CALGARY'S NORTHEAST



Residents of Calgary's northeast enjoy an abundance of recreation and leisure opportunities in and around their neighbourhoods. Whether you're young or old, there are a ton of opportunities nearby for staying active and improving your quality of life.

The neighbourhood parks and paths are ideal for walks, jogs or cycling, and large green spaces are great for picnics or gatherings. Rotary Park (1 St. NE), Prairie Winds Park (Castleridge Blvd NE) and Tom Campbell's Hill Natural Park (St. Georges Drive NE) are some of the most popular spots for outdoor leisure.

For indoor recreation, Village Square Leisure Centre (2623 56 St. NE) has something for every member of the family — a safari-themed water park and wave pool, hockey arena, full-size



ISTOCK

gym, fitness classes, weight room and day camps, plus registered programs in dance, skating and martial arts.

The Don Hartman Northeast Sportsplex is similar, boasting a well-equipped fitness studio, a double gym for floor hockey, basketball and more. The Live-Barn is an additional space where viewers can watch amateur hockey live and on-demand.

Vivo, a non-profit space on Country Village Link NE, has a mission to encourage a healthier generation of people in the community. It hosts a preschool and child-minding service, plus swimming, yoga, soccer, fitness, pre/post-natal classes and arts and entertainment programming. If you're interested in skating, martial arts or learning triathlon, this venue can help start that journey.

Fittingly, there are a handful of places near the Calgary International Airport where fun-seekers can get airborne. The Calgary Climbing Centre is a great place for children and adults

to get fit by getting off the ground, while the newly-opened Flying Squirrel (572 Aero Dr. NE) is described as Canada's largest indoor trampoline fun park, with dodgeball courts, foam pits with dunk hoops, a ninja course, fidget ladder and more. The venue offers party packages and a café and snack bar for pre- or post-play fuel.

Back outside, there are the parks and pathways of the city's greenway — space for walking or cycling that also connects 55 of Calgary's neighbourhoods. With the help of area developers, Parks Foundation Calgary has nearly completed the northeast network of off-leash and family fitness parks and paths, children's parks and wetlands. In all, nearly 1,000 kilometres of pathway are available to city residents, making the 138-kilometre greenway one of the biggest such ventures in North America.

The northeast is also set to become home to one of the first regional parks in Calgary, surrounding a preserved wetland area and featuring open spaces and fun activity options for all.

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Q5 delivers with tech, performance



REVIEW

Audi's latest SUV offering sure to please

 **Jonathan Yarkony**
AutoGuide.com

As little as 12 years ago, Audi didn't have an SUV, but in 2009 the Q5 took the small premium crossover segment by storm.

What was it about the Q5 that so resonated with luxury shoppers and took the brand to new heights, becoming a global best-seller in the process? Aside from Audi's impeccable interiors and solid, reassuring driving feel, the Q5 had just enough cargo and passenger space for family living, and a range of power-trains that offered consumers their choice of efficiency or a bit of excitement along with their utility.

The new Q5 is based on Audi's modular MLB platform, and although that is the same architecture underpinning the new A4, Audi engineers claimed the Q5 will have more in common with the next-generation.

With the level of technology coming into play, it's increasingly important to solve the myriad ergonomic and interaction issues, and Audi's Multi-Media Interface and Virtual Cockpit

offer several ways for one to operate navigation, audio and car systems. My favourite is the steering-wheel thumb wheel and buttons on the left spoke, which let you access the most common functions without lifting a hand off the wheel. The latest addition to Audi's MMI is the touchpad, which recognizes your scribbles and translates them into letters when you input information for route guidance or a contact and is said to offer tablet-like pinch and zoom control, though not in the models we sampled.

Although the Q5 will be loaded to the roof rack with driver-assistance systems, the focus of the event was its essential driving quality in a variety of settings. Exploring the southern tip of Mexico's Baja Peninsula, we set off from our resort on some intermediate highways, skirted the edges of a small mountain range, climbing the twisting and sweeping curves, picking our way through the narrow cobbled streets of a small rural town, cutting across the landscape on a dirt road, driving onto a sandy beach for photo ops and then cruising back on a highway that saw us reaching and holding autobahn speeds. It's hard to say whether the chassis or the engine was the star, because both were so impressive in every way, and perhaps it was their seamless cooperation that sets a new benchmark.

THE CHECKLIST | 2018 AUDI Q5 REVIEW

THE BASICS

Engine: 2.0L turbo four-cylinder
Transmission: Seven-speed S tronic dual-clutch auto
Power: 252 hp, 273 lb-ft of torque
Curb Weight: 1,950 kg
Cargo Space (trunk/max): 550-610/1,550 L
Starting Price (est.): \$45,000



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SONDORS

Making the three-wheeled e-car a Reality

A new company has an ambitious plan of building "the most attractive, affordable, and practical electric car ever with base price starting at \$10,000." That company is called Sondors, founded by Storm Sondors, who raised \$10-million and delivered 15,000 electric bikes. The Sondors eBike has since become the largest electric bike distributor in the U.S. and is currently sold in 67 other countries worldwide. And like the electric bike, Sondors plans on cutting out the middleman by allowing buyers to pre-order their cars online before they are custom built and delivered to their doorstep. The Sondors electric car is a three-seat, three-wheeled vehicle and the company plans on offering three different range options: 50 miles (80 kilometres), 100 miles (160 kilometres) and 200 miles (322 kilometres). JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

TELEVISION

The Grand Tour promises show full of hijinks

After teasing Top Gear fans for what seems like ages, the former hosts of the popular motoring show have released the first official trailer for The Grand Tour. The new show, which stars Jeremy Clarkson, James May, and Richard Hammond, is an Amazon original series and is highly anticipated because of how poorly the revamped Top Gear has performed. JODI LAI/AUTOGUIDE.COM



ELECTRIC CARS

Henrik Fisker launches new company

Henrik Fisker is making another attempt at producing electric vehicles. Now that Fisker Automotive is officially dead, with its new Chinese owners renaming it Karma, Henrik Fisker has created Fisker, Inc. and plans to show off a premium, all-electric vehicle in the second half of 2017. In an interview with Bloomberg, Fisker said the new vehicle will be a "spiritual successor" to the Fisker Karma originally launched in 2012. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM



+ IN BRIEF

Chevrolet Debuts Colorado ZH2 Fuel Cell Test Vehicle

Chevrolet is testing the viability of using hydrogen-powered vehicles on military missions. At the fall meeting of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), the American automaker introduced the Chevrolet Colorado ZH2 fuel-cell electric vehicle, the most extreme off-road-capable hydrogen vehicle Chevy has ever made. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM

Rinspeed Oasis is the R2-D2 of automobiles

The annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) continues to garner the attention of automakers worldwide. The Rinspeed Oasis will be on display at next year's CES, a two-seater electric car with self-driving capabilities. The Swiss automaker says the Rinspeed Oasis is a bit like Star Wars icon R2-D2, since both are capable of turning on their own axis with almost a zero radius. It is also designed to make "a bold statement against the notion of a city jungle requiring multi-ton SUVs for survival," by being a clever self-driving electric vehicle for the urban sphere. JASON SIU/AUTOGUIDE.COM



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4

CARS MINI'S HEAD OF DESIGN COVETS

MINIs are not only quirky and fun to look at, but they're also a blast to drive. It's rare that a car can avoid looking aggressive and still portray a sporty personality, but that's just part of MINI's charm. Christopher Weil, the head of MINI design, says he currently drives a grey Countryman, but gave us an eclectic list of his all-time favourite designs. **SAMI HAJ-ASSAD/AUTOGUIDE.COM**

**1 Lamborghini Miura**

The go-to choice for designers and car lovers is the Lamborghini Miura. The beautiful coupe is held as the benchmark for design and performance and is often referenced as the first true supercar. This mid-engined Italian beauty is on everyone's list.

**2 Toyota 2000GT**

Here's an interesting choice. The Toyota 2000GT was one of the first Japanese supercars and a beautiful, Asian interpretation on the Jaguar E-Type. It featured a long hood and short deck, and under the hood was an awesome 2.0-litre six-cylinder engine. Nowadays, it's seen as the first truly desirable and collectible Japanese vehicle, with examples selling at auction for over \$1-million. Only 351 of these cars were ever made and some Boomers may remember the Toyota as Bond's ride in *You Only Live Twice*, even though that model had to have its roof lopped off to accommodate Sean Connery's 6'2" frame. It's rare to hear the Japanese car mentioned by designers, but its inclusion here shows Weil's appreciation of cars from all over the world.

**3 Porsche 914**

Another oddball choice here. Rarely considered as a high-performance vehicle, the 914 was developed in collaboration with a then-rival: Volkswagen.

**4 Porsche 930**

Weil owned and sadly got rid of a Porsche 930, but he fact that this designer even lived with a 1970's 911 Turbo shows his true automotive enthusiasm.

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"Please don't tweet at me about Bauer": Curt Schilling doesn't like comparisons between his bloody sock and Trevor Bauer's bloody finger

The first step of a steep climb



Josh Donaldson opens the scoring with a solo home run during Game 4 of the American League Championship Series in Toronto on Tuesday. CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Bruce Arthur

They're probably not coming back, right? No, put that out of your mind. Coming back from 0-3 in a best-of-seven series is probably hopeless, like never losing a sock in the laundry, or beating traffic. Nobody ever really beats traffic. In Toronto, traffic beats you.

But the Toronto Blue Jays, facing elimination in the American League Championship Series, beat Cleveland 5-1 in Game 4. They now trail 3-1, which is better than 3-0, if not by a lot. Trailing 3-1 just means you put off the execution until Wednesday, maybe.

"We're in the same boat as today," said reliever Jason Grilli. "If it means getting in the World Series, we've got to win every game."

"I mean, it definitely feels good to get a win," said catcher Russell Martin. "And that's how it starts. We won four in a row to start the playoffs, and I believe that we can do it."

I mean, what else can he say? One team has come back from 0-3 ever. But still in Game 4, Cleveland had to pitch Corey Kluber on short rest for the first time in his life and he lasted only 89 pitches. If there's a Game 7, he will have to do it again.

"I think seeing him so recently was good for us as well," said designated hitter Michael Saunders. "Understanding what his ball was do-

ing. His stuff was as good as it's always been. (But) there's that familiarity."

Cleveland manager Terry Francona thought Kluber's legs got tired. It took until the third inning of Game 4, but Josh Donaldson smashed a two-out home run to left-centre, and the Jays held a lead over Cleveland for the first time in October. One inning later, with men at first and second, Ezequiel Carrera — "a prime-time player," according to shortstop Troy Tulowitzki — slapped at a first-pitch curveball, and it arced gently up over the infield but short of the outfield.

GAME 4 In Toronto



Tulowitzki read the play like a pro and scored from second to make it 2-0.

The two runs mattered in this one because starter Aaron Sanchez was cruising along. Cleveland's two hits came from their No. 8 and 9 hitters. Sanchez is a killer, and it probably would have been nice to see him start twice in this series.

"You don't need to be better than he was today," Mar-

tin said.

There were other signs of life from the bats. Edwin Encarnacion hit one to the track. Saunders crushed an upper-deck slider foul and singled twice. Bautista hit one to the track. Tulowitzki hit a single off the top of the wall. Carrera had excellent at-bats. Baseball is a funny game, though you don't always laugh.

"Good teams are always lucky," said Saunders, quite seriously.

And in the seventh, they loaded the bases when Cleveland decided on facing Edwin Encarnacion promptly spanked a single up the middle that scored two. Didn't try to do too much. A cushion, finally. The Jays hadn't been able to breathe all series long.

So, now what? Cleveland will start a rookie named Ryan Merritt Wednesday. He pitched 11 innings this year. He's left-handed, and doesn't throw hard. Toronto will counter with Marco Estrada. Hmm.

It's probably not happening. Three more wins is a mountain.

But ... Cleveland is trying to advance to the World Series with two starting pitchers, plus a bullpen that can lay waste to the Earth. It's a tight-rope, not a paved road to the centre of town.

"Why not us?" Grilli asked. I guess we'll see.

Bruce Arthur is a sports columnist with the Toronto Star

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'I can't tech it anymore'

NFL

Patriots coach Belichick says tablets aren't dependable

Bill Belichick is throwing in the towel in his ongoing fight with the use of tablets on the sideline. Responding to a question in a conference call Tuesday about headset issues the Patriots had during last week's win over the Bengals, Belichick said he "can't take it anymore" with the tablets, adding there isn't enough consistency in the performance of the devices.

"I've given them as much

time as I can give them," Belichick said of the tablets. "They're just too undependable for me."

The decision comes after Belichick was caught on camera slamming down a sideline tablet following a Bills touchdown during their Oct. 2 matchup.

He also railed for several minutes about ongoing issues with

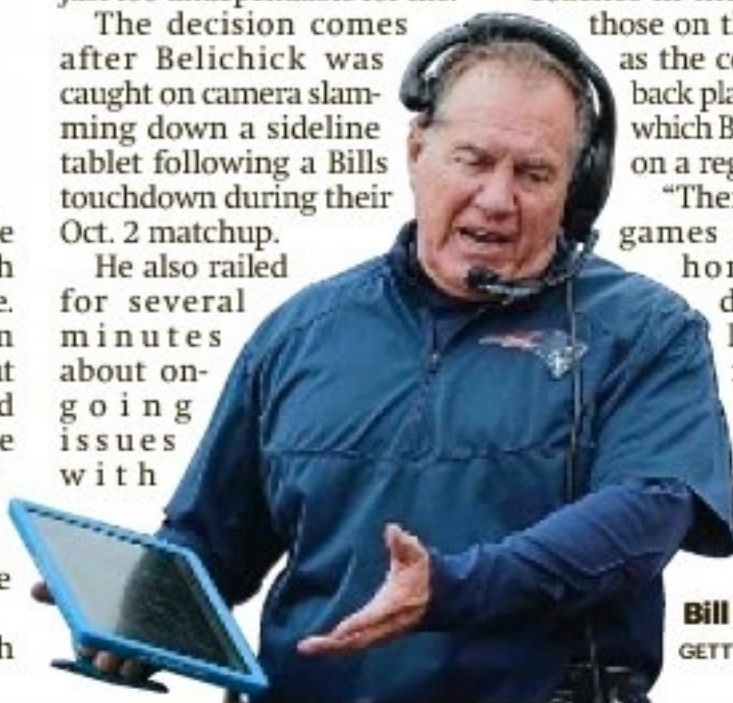
NFL technology, including the communication system between coaches in the press box and those on the field, as well as the coach-to-quarterback play calling system, which Belichick said "fail on a regular basis."

"There are very few games that we play, home or away, day, night, cold, hot, preseason, regular season, post-season, it doesn't make any difference; there are very few games

where there aren't issues in some form or fashion with that equipment," he said.

NFL spokesperson Alex Riethmiller said in a statement the league will continue to work with strategic partners like Microsoft to make sure the best systems are in place to help clubs execute their game plans.

"Implementing their technology on our sidelines has increased the efficiency and speed of collaboration between coaches and players to an all-time high," Riethmiller said. "Within our complex environment, many factors can affect the performance of a particular technology either related to or outside of our partner's solutions."



Bill Belichick
GETTY IMAGES



NHL FLAMES LOOK FOR WIN NO. 1 VS. SABRES

Buffalo Sabres goalie Robin Lehner blocks the net on Flames forward Micheal Ferland on Tuesday night at the Saddledome. Go to metronews.ca for the result. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Leicester bright on European nights

Leicester's decision to prioritize the Champions League over the Premier League is being vindicated.

Riyad Mahrez made it three wins out of three for Leicester in Group G on Tuesday, clinching a 1-0 victory over FC Copenhagen that left his team requiring only one win from its final three games to make the knockout phase.

Halfway through the group stage, Leicester holds a five-point lead over Copenhagen and FC Porto. Danish league leader Copenhagen had been unbeaten in 21 matches in all competitions before being sunk by Mahrez's first-half goal.

"The most important thing was to be solid because Copenhagen is difficult to play



Riyad Mahrez GETTY IMAGES

against —all the players are strong and physical," Mahrez said. "But we did it."

Mahrez had been restored to the starting lineup after being rested on Saturday at Chelsea, only coming off the bench in a 3-0 loss.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Burris's play in Week 17 acknowledged by CFL

Ottawa quarterback Henry Burris, Winnipeg defensive back Taylor Loffler and Saskatchewan running back Joe McKnight are the CFL's top performers for Week 17. Burris excelled in his first start since Week 9, leading the Redblacks to a 30-29 win in Hamilton on Friday.

The 41-year-old connected on 27 of 39 passes for 393 yards and one touchdown pass, while also running in two TDs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Habs shut out Pens 4-0

David Desharnais scored twice and Al Montoya made 36 saves for the shutout as the Montreal Canadiens won their home opener 4-0 over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Tuesday night.

Off-season signing Alexander Radulov got his first goal as a Canadian — with Montoya picking up an assist — while Max Pacioretty also scored for Montreal (2-0-1). The Penguins (2-1-1), played their first road game of the season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Pumpkin Curried Soup



PHOTO: MAAYA VISINIE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This warmly spiced soup is supremely creamy and packed with vitamin-rich pumpkin making it the ideal fall comfort dish.

Ready in 40 minutes

Prep time: 30 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1 or 2 glugs of olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp ginger, minced
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp ground coriander
- 1 tsp curry powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 x 14 oz. pumpkin purée (not pumpkin pie filling!)
- 2 cups low-sodium vegetable or chicken stock
- 1 cup water
- 1 x 14 oz. coconut milk (Try lite for all the flavour and less fat)

Directions

1. Warm olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add your minced onions and garlic until they begin to soften and your kitchen starts smelling great. Now add all of the spices. Stir them into the onion mix and let them cook for a few minutes. Keep stirring so they don't start to stick to the bottom of your pot.

2. Empty your pumpkin purée into the pot and give it a mix with the onions and spices. Now add the stock, water and coconut milk. Let simmer for about 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Don't let it get too hot or the coconut milk may split.

3. Turn off the heat and allow the soup to cool a bit before either putting into the blender in batches to purée or just giving a whiz with a submersion blender. Warm again and serve.

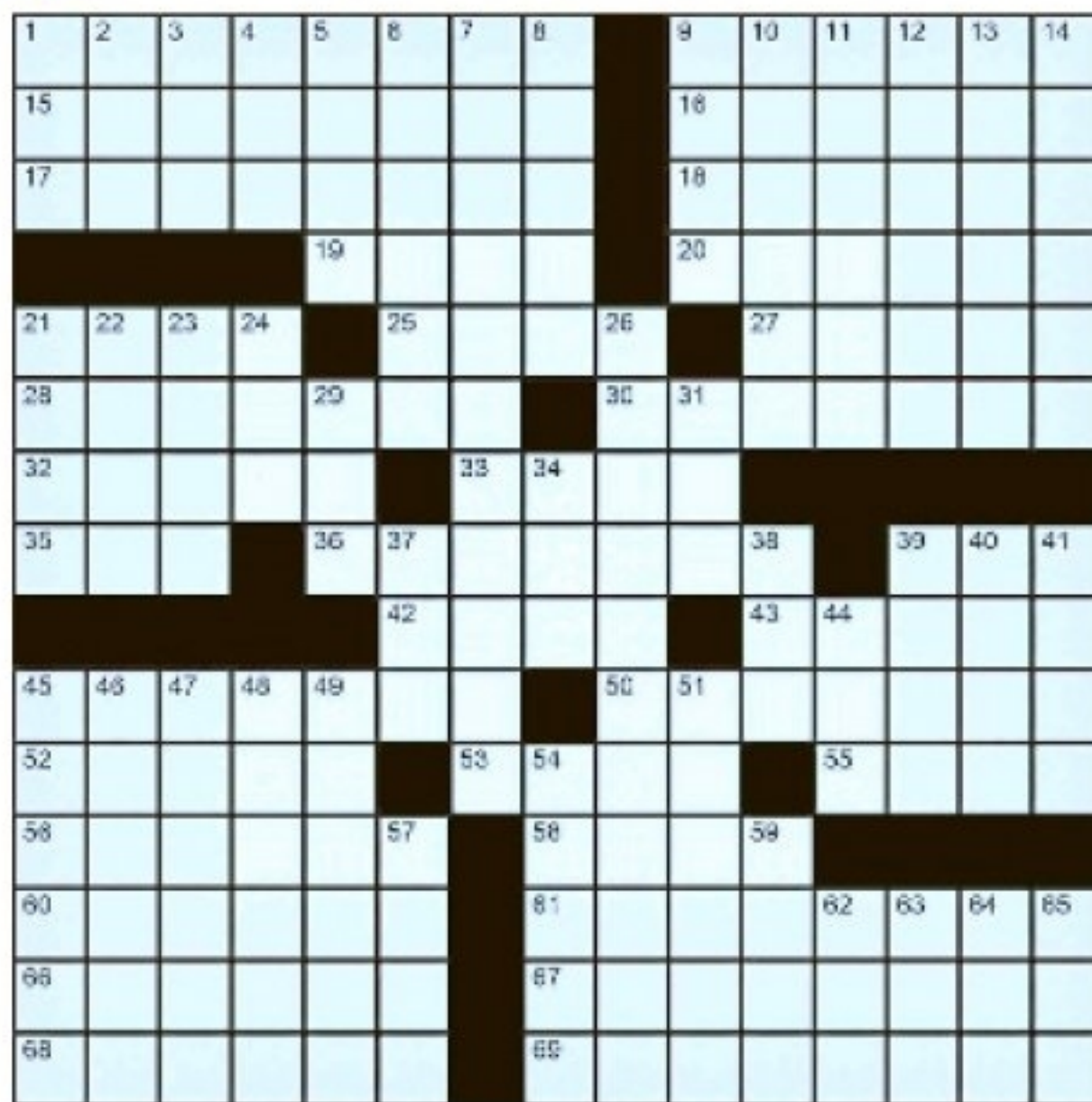
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ACROSS

- Province like Prince Edward Island
- Shade of red in Paris
- Most which can be attained: 2 wds.
- British pop singer Ms. Moyet
- 1918 Puccini opera, Suor _
- Relay the news
- Cinch
- Slender
- Livelinesses
- "Take _ ' Train" by Duke Ellington and His Famous Orchestra
- Bitter- _ (Diehard)
- Is employed: 3 wds.
- Those de-sudsing
- Tea or soya milk or Pepsi
- _ mater
- Journey's famous lead singer ...his initials-shares
- Canadian musician Ms. McKennitt
- Wager
- Geraint's wife in Arthurian legend
- "Key _" (1948)
- Drafting tool
- Lot of leaves
- Circular
- Priority of _ in "The Da Vinci Code" (2006)
- Dick Tracy's beloved
- Captivate, States-style
- Holy _ ("Dragons' Den" deal-getting cereal)
- Turkey's capital
- "I'm so glad I live in a world where



there are _" - Anne of Green Gables
66. Transferred, as land
67. Food Labels: Best Before... = _ Avant...
68. Strife
69. Embraces, as a cause

DOWN

- Kingston Trio lettered song
- "Dream" by Priscilla _
- Mr. Philbin, to pals
- Island: French
- Some poetic contractions
- "_ _ _ _" (Visiting-

Canada's-largest-city tourist's response to "Where are you?"
7. "New York Stories" is this Canadian jazz singer/songwriter's latest album: 2 wds.
8. A day's march for troops
9. "Drive" '80s

rock band
10. Onze, in Oshawa
11. Matures in the Produce Department
12. Opera, Tristan und _
13. One readying to alphabetize
14. Inputs information

- High degrees, for short
- Wild West's Wyatt
- Greek*alphabet letters
- Diego's partner
- Defence... CAF = Canadian _
- Alphabetic trio
- Mr. Somerhalder
- Floral souvenir
- Poet's 'over'
- Fully
- Type of hillside
- _ on (Incites)
- Pumps points
- River islet
- Bottom-of-shoes designs
- 14-line poem
- _ Oats Company
- Like an as-yet-to-be-created creation
- Treasures
- How breaking stories might develop: 3 wds.
- "_ _ _ in peace."
- Gnarlies!
- _ shirt (Preppy top)
- _ray player
- Initials-sharers of Charlie Sheen's famous brother
- Regret
- Non-Jr.s

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Think before you speak today, especially to partners and close friends, because you might blurt out something you later regret. Be aware of this. Count to three before you open your mouth.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Your work routine will be interrupted today. It might be because you feel feisty and independent about something and refuse to do it. Or perhaps high-tech equipment breaks down.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is an accident-prone day for your kids, so be vigilant. You also can expect social plans to suddenly change. Everything is up for grabs today!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Be diplomatic with family members to avoid an argument. However, this is an accident-prone day at home. Small appliances might break down, or minor breakages could occur.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a mildly accident-prone day for you. It's also the classic day for you to shoot from the hip and say something that you later wish you did not. Therefore, think before you speak!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today you might find money, or you might lose money. Ditto for your possessions. Something about your finances is unpredictable.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Guard against knee-jerk reactions today. Be like the wise carpenter: Measure twice, cut once.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are restless, edgy and nervous today. This might be subconscious or you might be aware of it. Avoid doing anything that is upsetting or nerve-racking.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
A younger friend might surprise you today by doing something reckless or by suggesting something unusual. Be careful, because today is a crapshoot!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is not a good day to ask for permission or approval from bosses. In fact, they might say something that upsets you. Don't quit your day job.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Travel plans will be changed, cancelled or rescheduled today. Likewise, classes and schedules pertaining to higher education will be unreliable.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Stay on top of your banking and money needs, because something unexpected might affect your finances. Checks could bounce. An important bill might be due. Is the posse after you?

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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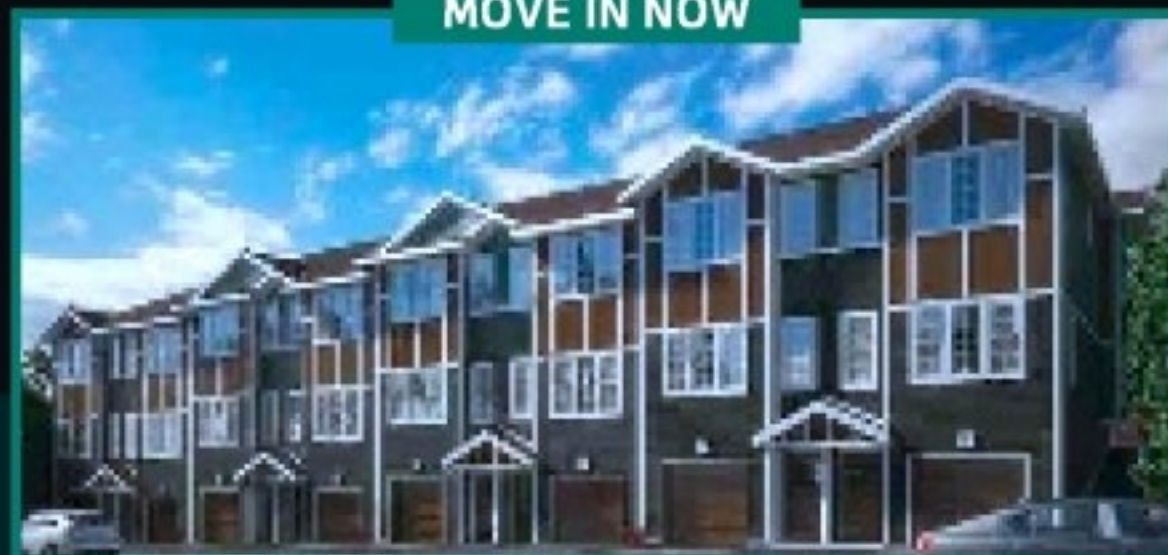
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Former CHBA CEO celebrated

More than 130 people turned out to celebrate the three decade career of the former CEO of Canadian Home Builders' Association - Calgary Region.

Donna Moore resigned her position in July. Over the span of her role as CEO, she worked with many of the top builders in the industry who volunteered their services to serve as president of the association that represented more than 600 member companies — and many of them attended the event at Heritage Pointe Golf Course to pay tribute to Moore.

CHBA - Calgary Region has now merged with Urban Development Institute - Calgary (working name Canadian Home Builders/Urban Development Institute Calgary Region) with Guy Huntingford as the CEO.

Moore has just taken over as CEO of CHBA - Alberta.

— KATHY MCCORMICK



Donna Moore, right, former CEO of Canadian Home Builders' Association - Calgary Region with her daughter, Lindsay Freckleton.

CONTRIBUTED



Past presidents pay tribute to Donna Moore (centre, in black flowered dress) for her 30 years as CEO of CHBA - Calgary region.

CONTRIBUTED

New home starts begin to stabilize

An uptick in single-family housing starts last month — no matter how slight — is a good sign, says Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

"Compared to last month, overall construction starts picked up pace in September, particularly as construction of several multi-family condo projects began recently," said Richard Cho, CMHC principal market analysis for Calgary.

"The overall market has started to stabilize."

Calgary and area builders started work on 391 single-family homes, up from 309 in August, but the 814 multi-family units in September was shy of the 990 the previous month, the highest month for multi starts this year. "Most of those were apartments," says Cho. "A total of 524 units were apartments."

While the uptick is positive for the industry, starts are still below historical averages, says Guy Huntingford, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders'/Urban Development Institute Calgary Region. "The higher numbers we are seeing are being driven by the multi-unit condo projects."

The overall inventory of multi-family units is at a record high of 923 units in September — an increase from just 281 last September, and most of those are apartment units, says Cho. "I expect to see it slow down. The market is responding already; the total multi-family starts are down 35 per cent so far."

Year-to-date, Calgary CMA (Census Metropolitan Area, which includes centres around the city boundaries) had 2,515 single-family starts (compared to 3,110 for the first three quarters last year) and 4,383 multiple

starts (compared to 6,721 in 2015) for a total of 6,898 starts so far this year. 2015 saw 9,831 total starts by this time.

But overall, "builders have done a great job of adjusting to the economy over the past year," Huntingford says.

The median price of a new single-family absorbed home sold in Calgary last month was \$539,850, down 19 per cent from last year's September median of \$670,000.

"But I expect that is because more homes were sold in lower price ranges with fewer high-end home sales," Cho says.

Across Alberta, housing starts in urban centres with 10,000+ population reached 16,561 year-to-date, down 39 per cent compared to 27,005 from January to the end of September 2015. The decrease was felt most deeply in the multi-family sector, down 45 per cent over the previous year.



Builders have done a great job of adjusting to the economy over the past year

Guy Huntingford, CEO of the Canadian Home Builders'/Urban Development Institute Calgary Region

Edmonton CMA's year-to-date starts are: single-family — 3,077; multi-family — 4,085; total — 7,162. That compares to the first nine months of 2015: single-family — 4,495; multi-family — 9,004; total — 13,499.

— KATHY MCCORMICK

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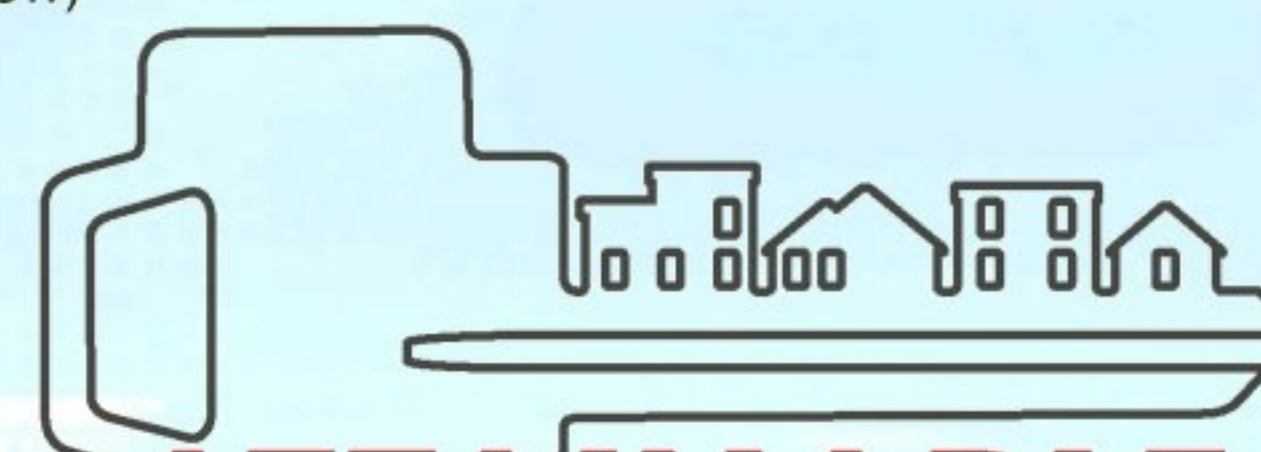
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Drywall tariffs hurt industry and homebuyers

CANADA BORDER SERVICES

Home builders worry new duties will drive up prices

Kathy McCormick

A federal government decision to impose tariffs on U.S.-imported gypsum board products could push up new home prices, said Guy Huntingford, CEO of CHBA/UDI Calgary Region.

"Our immediate concern is the impact the new provisional duties will have on supply and price of drywall in Alberta, especially on current contracts," Huntingford said.

"Currently, the anti-dumping investigation only looks at the drywall industry and not the construction industry as a whole, or how it will affect future home prices. If there is a supply shortage and higher costs for drywall, the higher cost will be passed on to all aspects of our industry and in the end the homebuyer."

On Sept. 6, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) enacted provisional duties on gypsum board imported from the United States to Western Canada. These duties are set from 105.2 per cent to as much as 276.5 per cent, depending on the supplier.

In a statement, CBSA indicated the tariff was a result of a complaint filed in April by CertainTeed Gypsum Canada Inc. In its investigation, CBSA concluded in part: "Sub-

ject imports from the U.S. at dumped prices have caused injury to the domestic industry in Western Canada. The domestic industry in the region has suffered lost sales, price depression and price suppression, lost revenues, reduced profitability, loss of market share, and increasing underutilization of capacity."

The CBSA decision is under review for the next three months, but the import duty will remain until a final decision is made.

All home builder associations across Canada, nationally, provincially and locally, are meeting with governments to address the issue, said CHBA - Alberta.

On its website, CHBA - Alberta says: "In recent days, we have contacted CBSA directly, along with the Alberta minister of economic development and trade, and the minister of seniors and housing. CHBA National is working on this file as it rests at the federal level, but we will continue to contact decision makers to make them aware of the impact the tariff will have."

Nationally, CHBA has engaged trade experts and legal counsel to look at other options to address the issue, said Huntingford.

"If the Canada Border Services Agency doesn't change the provisional duties before the next stage of the process, CHBA will have a strong case to appeal based on the public interest for housing affordability, the impact the increasing prices will have on the rest of Canada and the vulnerable housing markets in the west."



"If there is a supply shortage and higher costs for drywall, the higher cost will be passed on to all aspects of our industry and in the end the homebuyer," said Guy Huntingford, CEO of CHBA/UDI Calgary Region. ISTOCK

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Taking a page from old-school planning

CITYSCAPE

Desire for walkability has driven developers back to the grid system

Karen Durrie

The oldest communities in Calgary have the highest scores for being pedestrian friendly. What makes older, inner-city communities such as Mission and Hillhurst more walkable? It's the grid system, says Bev Sandalak, a researcher for The Urban Lab at the U of C.

"A grid has more intersections, more choices of ways through the neighbourhood. And the inner city has a higher quality of environment, with street trees, sidewalks on both sides and few major freeways interrupting the walk," she says.

After 1955, Calgary developers moved to a "warped grid" until the curvilinear community design took over in the 1980s. That was used almost exclusively for more than 30 years. Curvilinear neighbourhoods score low for walkability. They have long, curving sidewalks, few choices for getting from point A to B and lack destinations. They encourage driving rather than walking.

But that's changing, Sandalak says.

Research connecting walk-



Research connecting walking to increased health is changing the way developers design new communities. ISTOCK

ing to increased health has driven developers back to the city's grid system roots, making pedestrians a priority.

The move away from curvilinear is evident in many new and developing neighbourhoods.

The southeast community of Seton is built on a fine-grained grid network, says Geoff Noble, planning coordinator for Brookfield Residential.

"It allows for more routes for pedestrians, disperses traf-

fic so you don't have many major roads that are less pedestrian friendly, and we have street trees and separated sidewalks."

With the South Health Campus, a recreation centre underway, two planned high schools, two future LRT stations and retail throughout, Seton is an urban employment area where people can easily walk to work, Noble says.

Across the city, Mattamy Homes' Cityscape commu-

nity touts itself as pedestrian friendly, with pathways tying into the 138-kilometre Rotary/Mattamy Greenway. Its focal point is a 115-acre environmental reserve.

Interesting residential streetscapes, community gathering spaces and "permeable community design" help increase walkability, says Warren Saunders, VP of sales and marketing for Mattamy.

"We try to design without cul-de-sacs or looped streets, to create a variety of paths to

ensure residents have true options to get in and out. Permeable design encourages people to explore their communities and meet their neighbours."

Calgary has been criticized for its low walkability score, listed 18th on a list of 20 major Canadian cities on Walk Score, an online index that measures the walkability of communities.

In January, the city launched Step Forward, a strategic plan to make Calgary more walkable.



We try to design without cul-de-sacs or looped streets, to create a variety of paths to ensure residents have true options to get in and out.

Warren Saunders, VP of sales and marketing for Mattamy

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A survey shows that 'location efficiency' is a key factor in what the average homebuyer is looking for. It's a term used to describe walkable, transit-friendly neighbourhoods. ISTOCK

Location, location, location, say buyers

LIFE BALANCE

Active lifestyles are driving trends for master-planned communities

Christy Nich

Trends for new communities in Calgary are turning towards

finding the perfect work-live-play balance as people adopt more active lifestyles.

Communities are being 'master-planned' which translated means 'a self-contained neighbourhood for every stage of your life, providing convenience, comfort, and accessibility' — whether on the outskirts of the city like Cornerstone or a new inner-city development like Currie Barracks.

Looking at the 2014 Home Location Preference Survey, prepared by the Pembina Institute and the Royal Bank of Canada, and conducted in Toronto, what

the average Calgary homebuyer is looking for is comparable.

The survey included respondents' preferences for location-related attributes such as walkability, commuting time and square footage. It also explored the importance of housing prices and transportation costs when considering home-location choices.

Price was one of the key factors, but if the price was not a factor, the report indicated that most people surveyed would prefer to buy in an area with 'location efficiency' — a term used to describe walkable, transit-friendly neigh-

bourhoods, over car-dependent locations.

The report also said that families with more than three children preferred a larger house in a 'car-dependent' suburb 40 per cent of the time. But when they realized the potential transportation costs associated with living in the suburbs, 60 per cent of homebuyers were swayed, even if they could only afford a smaller home within their budget.

The question is how do these findings translate to car-dependent Calgary where the bulk of Calgarians work in the down-

town core? As the transit system struggles to keep up with the growing population and land mass, are more people moving to the outlying districts in the city limits? The statistics say 'yes'.

According to Guy Huntingford, CEO of CHBA-UDI Calgary, "It takes a long time to change a tradition," but we are seeing complete communities where you don't have to drive. With the completion of our Ring Road, newer areas like Carrington and Walden don't have to depend on Deerfoot Trail. "That's a good thing," he added.

Other factors based around location play a significant role in home selection. Calgary's newer communities include outdoor amenities such as paths, ponds, lakes, golf courses and playgrounds. Shopping centres and other services, as well as accessibility and transit, are deemed more important than the size of the house or yard.

Proximity to schools and day-care — even cafés or ease of getting away for ski weekend — all factor in when choosing a location as much as the commute to work.



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The hills are magnet for newcomers

THE UNITED COMMUNITIES

Established parks and retail area are major draw

Kathy McCormick

As the city of Calgary grew and started inching north, people anxiously awaited the new communities being built up — and no wonder. The rolling topography with glimpses of rock outcroppings peeking through the hillsides is appealing.

And then Stoney Trail was completed, providing new homeowners with easy access to any point in the city, but especially the airport, the shops and services in the area, the university, hospitals, and more. The new Ring Road allows for a quick getaway to the mountains or north to Edmonton.

People responded. No surprise that many of the newest NW communities are already sold out. Sage Hill is one such example. The United Communities neighbourhood is a magnet for new homebuyers.

Nolan Hill, next door, is also a United Community that came on stream in 2012 — and it's already in its final phase.

"There's been high demand for homes in this area," said Steve LePan, marketing director of United Communities. "The location and access are great."

Just take a look at some nearby services: Beacon Hills shopping centre that include Cost-



Location, services and access have made Nolan Hills — now in its final phase — a high demand area for buyers looking for new homes. CONTRIBUTED



The ZeroLotLine Parade is among the mix of homes in Nolan Hills. CONTRIBUTED

co; a new Sage Hill shopping area with Wal-Mart, Loblaw's City Market; Symons Valley Ranch market open year-round; and neighbourhood retail at Gates of Nolan Hill (with Sobey's, State and Main Pub, Petro Canada, a hot yoga studio, barber, veterinarian, and more).

Nolan, between Sarcee and Shaganappi Trail NW, is bordered to the north by 144 Avenue and to the south by Symons Valley Parkway.

"With the high demand, we've sold homes quickly —

and that's another benefit of Nolan Hill," LePan said.

"We were able to build quickly and so the community is established already with parks and retail, yet it's a new community with new homes available for sale. People don't have to live in a construction zone."

There's more that sets the development apart: the master-planned community covers 400 acres and has a Celtic theme with the entry feature a focal point. It's been designed to resemble a castle ruins. Play-

grounds throughout the community are also themed.

A mix of homes appeal to a wide range of buyers, with many young families or couples wanting to start a family, LePan said. "And we have a range of show homes in all styles and price ranges."

Half of the final phase has just been released — 125 single-family lots with 16 show homes by Homes by Avi, Morrison Homes, Shane Homes, Pacesetter by Sterling Homes, and Trico Homes. The prices are from the \$480,000s.

+ ALSO IN DEVELOPMENT

In addition, four multi-family projects, all townhomes with garages, are under construction.

These include:

- Cardel Lifestyles — Nolan Park.
- Cedarglen Living — Elements of Nolan Hill
- Jayman BUILT — Carnaby Heights
- Morrison Homes — Sonoma at Nolan Hill.

These are priced from the \$300,000s.

United Communities has been developing new neighbourhoods in Calgary for close to 30 years. It is now under the umbrella of Anthem Properties, a Vancouver-based real estate investment development and management business. "Next up in Calgary will be the community of Belmont in the south," said United Communities marketing director, Steve LePan.

"Located west of Macleod Trail at 210 Avenue and south of Silverado, the community is expected to have new show homes in the fall of 2017."



Nolan Hills' Celtic castle ruins entry feature is a focal point for the community. CONTRIBUTED



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